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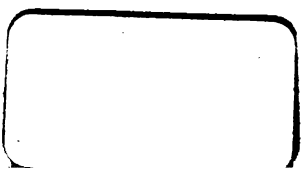

# THE TWENTIETH CENTURY DOG

## II

## (SPORTING)

COMPANION VOLUME

The

**Twentieth Century Dog**

I.—NON-SPORTING

BY

HERBERT COMPTON

WITH COLOURED FRONTISPIECE
AND OTHER ILLUSTRATIONS

*Large Cr. 8vo, Cloth, gilt, 7s. 6d. net.*
*Leather, 9s. net.*

LONDON: GRANT RICHARDS

BLOODHOUNDS HORDLE HERCULES AND HORDLE ZEPHYR.

*(From an oil painting by Mr. Creswell H. Desmond.)*

*PLATE I*

# The Twentieth Century Dog

## (SPORTING)

COMPILED FROM THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF OVER FIVE HUNDRED EXPERTS

BY

HERBERT COMPTON

*ILLUSTRATED*

VOL. II.

LONDON
GRANT RICHARDS
1904

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## THE DOG AND HIS MASTERS

IN the companion volume of this work I endeavoured, when dealing with non-sporting dogs, to trace the development of the twentieth century dog and indicate the forces that operated in shaping it—namely, the skill and enthusiasm of the fancier, the impetus and encouragement given to dog-fancying by dog shows, and the beneficent and successful despotism of the Kennel Club in its conduct and control of the dog-world. In the following pages I propose to touch on those who are indirectly the masters of the destinies of the show-bench dog, and record as briefly as I can the opinions, in the concrete, of my many contributors, contained in their replies to the question I circulated, "Have you any remarks or suggestions to make about dog shows, dog-judging, dog-legislation, or kindred subjects?"

Several hundred fanciers had remarks and suggestions to make, and I have spent some days in tabulating and arranging them for treatment in this chapter. To confess the truth, I appear to have aroused a sort of hornet's nest, for some of the remarks were strong and several of the suggestions stinging! The first thing was to weed out the "unconfirmed complaints" — those artless criticisms which appeared to be the result of unhappy individual ex-

perience, and could not be regarded as propounded for the public weal. There were not a few of these, and I wish I could have included some on account of their humorous aspect — albeit very seriously represented. Next, the frivolous objections went by the board ; these were many, and conveyed the impression that pin-pricks take a longer time to heal than those who deliver them would suspect. The elimination of these two categories left me with the papers of the "conscientious objector," who may be right or wrong, but ventilates his views on public not on personal grounds. This reduced my material to about a hundred contributions, and included expressions of opinion from the very highest in the dog-world down to the "poor-man one-dog" fancier. The following pages are, in practice, a digest of these papers.

Before proceeding to deal with them I must give a little elementary information for the benefit of those of my readers who have no knowledge of dog shows and the dog-showing world, their principles and their politics ; for an acquaintance with existing conditions is necessary in order to appreciate the criticisms on them.

The dog-showing world is governed by the Kennel Club, which, like the Jockey Club, is a private institution, and its administrative committee amenable and answerable to none except its own members. Like Cromwell, the club usurped the governing power, and has justified it by its rule. Without the Kennel Club, or a similarly strong institution, the dog-showing world would probably be a chaos worse confounded. The club assumed the reins in the absence and improbability of a similarly strong institution, as I have elsewhere explained ; and we have to deal with it as an existing fact, for it is folly to waste time in trying to get behind

the fact, and criticise the materials of which it is the outcome.

The Kennel Club is the despot of dog-showing, and master of the dog situation. It tells you (having a practical monopoly of the business) that you must acclaim it king or be outcasted. If you enter your dog in public rivalry with a neighbour's without the Kennel Club's sanction, you do so at your peril. For never may you enter that dog to compete with dogs belonging to owners who have given the Kennel Club their allegiance. In the dog-showing world you must either be an obedient subject or an outlawed rebel. This, on the face of it, appears a little arbitrary, but then the Cromwells of the universe, who legislate for the benefit of their fellows, are nothing if they are not arbitrary. Nor would they deserve the confidence of their subjects if they had not the confidence to be arbitrary.

Every reputable and "recognised" show in the United Kingdom is held under the "rules" or "license" of the Kennel Club, which charges a fee for the latter privilege. I do not think it is necessary to reproduce the "rules" or the "regulations" applicable to licensed shows, for one or other are published in the show catalogues held under either conditions. The main differences between them are that in a show held under "rules" every dog entered must be registered at the Kennel Club, "to furnish evidence of the identity of the dog, and a record of its pedigree"; whilst under "license" a dog need not be registered. The former are "directory" dogs, with a pedigree; the latter may be very small fry, and nameless, whereby they are accorded less preferential treatment. Thus at a licensed show, which may not last longer than a day, where the entry fees do not cover the prize-money, classes may be

amalgamated, or the sweepstakes system introduced, which means docking the amount of advertised prize-money. Thus, supposing a competitor enters three of his own dogs in a class in which the advertised prizes are £2, £1, and 10s., and the class is not cancelled (which the show authorities may decide to do), and wins the three prizes, he would, under the sweepstakes system, only get his entry fees back, minus a deduction for expenses, or less than 30s., instead of £3 : 10s. In a show held under "rules" no sweepstakes, amalgamation, or diminution of the advertised prize-money is allowed. Again, under "rules," a date is fixed by which all entries must be made, and none can be accepted after it; but in a licensed show it is common to "extend entries" for a few more days, which hints an unsatisfactory state of affairs. In short, in a show under "rules" you know where you are and what you are going for; under "license" you do not, and sometimes you may be disappointed.

The fee for registering a dog is 2s. 6d., having been raised from 1s. to that amount in February 1903. Other fees demanded by the Kennel Club are 5s. for transferring the ownership of a dog, 5s. for cancelling the registration of a dog that has died without having been bred from (should you wish to use a favourite name for another), and 10s. for changing a dog's name. It will thus be seen that the Kennel Club imposes a fairly heavy taxation upon the dog-fancier, and taxation without representation has ever been a ticklish experiment in the government of the Anglo-Saxon race. The fees for "licensed" shows range from 10s. to £3; there is no fee for shows held under "rules," the profit to the Kennel Club being derived from the compulsory registration they entail on dog owners.

About two years ago, in response to a demand for

"representation," the Kennel Club created a "Council of Representatives" and dowered them with advisatory powers. It was composed of a representative elected from each of the different breeds of dogs, generally through the Specialist Clubs, and from a few Canine Associations. This Council holds quarterly meetings, and its proceedings are duly reported in the dog-press. There are several of my contributors who would work out salvation, according to their lights, through the electoral system, which brought this Council into being, and some of the more radical ones would substitute it, as the administrative body, for the Kennel Club itself.

So much for the senate that governs the dog-world —masters of the dog to the extent that the three estates of the realm are masters of the people.

We now come to dog shows, and here the dog is subjected to show committees, who impose several strict conditions on it when exhibited; to the dog-press, which wields the power of the pen; and to the judges, who decide the dog's prospects.

The regulations of dog shows naturally give rise to much criticism from my contributors. I think I may say that to the exhibitor the show is the judge. There are two sorts of judges—the professional and the amateur. The former is nearly always an "all-round" judge, and held to possess an expert opinion on a variety of breeds. Thus one hour he may be adjudicating on St. Bernards, the next on toy spaniels, and anon delivering himself on the respective and comparative merits of dingos and hairless dogs. The amateur judge is generally a specialist in one breed, and elected a "club judge" by his particular fancy; he is rewarded by the honour of his office, and may or may not accept "expenses" as his idiosyncrasy dictates.

As the wheel in practice revolves on its axle, so does

dog-showing centre on the judge. He is the man for whose single opinion dogs are brought hundreds of miles, in the hope that they may catch his eye. Wherefore he looms large in the exhibitor's, and we shall have the latter saying a good deal about him a few pages on. I suppose there is no more thankless task in the world than judging dogs at a show; it is purely a pronouncement of personal opinion, and the correct or incorrect view taken by the judge is incapable of being confirmed by practical demonstration. The decisions of the judge are reviewed by the dog-press, and I gather that a great many people are guided by the critiques; certain it is that a commendation in the dog-papers is highly valued, and liberally quoted on occasions, which makes it clear that the canine critic is another factor in moulding the destinies and career of a dog, and to that extent its master. In my own experience of a breed in which I knew most of the leading dogs, I must confess that, in the matter of press criticisms, I have chiefly been impressed by the genius of the reporter or compositor for mangling names, so that it really did not matter much what was said about dogs to whom the names were inapplicable. But a considerable number of my contributors appear to study press reports of shows closely and carefully, and these have some objections to urge against press verdicts. In fact, the judgment of the press is sometimes more venerated or dreaded than the judgment of the judge, and appears to come within the same focus for criticism.

Lastly come the arrangements of the show—the rules and regulations, and the method of carrying them out. From the time you take your dog into a show to the hour when you are permitted to withdraw it, the authorities and not yourself are masters of your exhibit. Hence the questions arise, Do the authorities, ordinarily,

do all that is reasonable for the welfare of the dog and trouble themselves about the comfort of the exhibitor, who, where he is unsuccessful, is an ill-requited patron of the showman? These are points on which many people have much to say.

In these paragraphs of elementary information I may explain that there is a great deal of paraphernalia necessary for a dog show in the shape of the "benches," which are supplied by certain well-known firms in the dog-world, generally purveyors of dogs' food, and consist of rows of wooden "benches" or kennels, divided off by wire partitions, so as to make a series of cages with the fronts open. These benches are used again and again at different shows, and it is popularly supposed that the germs of distemper—that scourge which decimates and sometimes annihilates kennels—linger in them. That nearly every dog show spells the death-warrant of many valuable dogs is, alas, too true. I have before me a letter from a large exhibitor informing me that he lost six dogs from distemper contracted at a recent leading show, whose value I can personally affirm was not less than £200. Is the chance of such a holocaust avoidable? Cannot science come to the assistance of the dog? Are the veterinary arrangements practical, or only theoretical? In my own experience I have known a dog suffering from distemper to be exhibited at a "three-days' show,"—which is equivalent to a leading show,—and know that it caused the death from distemper of four others benched in its vicinity. You may say an objection ought to have been lodged there and then; but you have the owner to deal with, who may declare "the dog is always like that," or "it's frightened at its surroundings," or "it has caught a cold in this beastly, draughty place," and reminds you it has passed the vet. More-

over, the mischief is done: it was done when the dog "passed the vet." On the other hand, no vet in the world can analyse a dog, itself quite well, that has come from a kennel infected with distemper, and I have a suspicion this is chiefly the way distemper germs creep into shows. With regard to the infection supposed to lurk in the benches themselves, one of the leading show managers told me personally that, with a view of trying to avoid a repetition of the disasters following on one of his shows, he had the whole "plant" scalded and scoured with boiling water and disinfectants, and then shut up in a large warehouse and fumigated for a fortnight with the most potent fumes that expert chemical advice could suggest. And yet the mortality from distemper after his next show was one of the worst in his experience. This discouraging side-light of dog-showing is naturally not proclaimed from the house-tops, but happy the exhibitor who cannot bear testimony to its occurrence from personal experience, and a thousand times blessed the savant who will discover and bring within the means of all an inoculation virus against distemper.

The hours during which a dog show is open are unreasonably long. They extend from 10 o'clock in the morning to 9, and sometimes 10 o'clock at night. At some of the shows dogs may be removed at 4 o'clock on payment of a fine of 5s., and at 7 o'clock on payment of 2s. 6d.—a method of raising revenue that can hardly be commended. At the Kennel Club's Show dogs can be removed at eight every evening without payment, but in all cases a deposit of £1 has to be lodged as security for the return of the dog the next morning. The rule is probably necessary, but it is irritating. The comfort of the exhibitor is even less considered than that of the dog; for him no chairs or

benches are provided, and the commissariat arrangements are seldom up to the modern standard of catering. Patient and long-suffering are the actual units who provide the show, and exasperating the muddle at some of the minor shows in the vicinity of the Secretary's office. Nor can it be truthfully said that the dogs themselves enjoy anything in the nature of a "treat" so far as their food is concerned, whilst I have known water as hard to find as in a desert. But these may be captious criticisms: I merely mention them as germane to my elementary description.

The actual judging of the dogs takes place in a so-called "ring," for which the appropriate epithet of "hole in the corner" is sometimes justifiable. Each judge is attended by two ring-stewards, whose duties are onerous; they marshal the dogs, keep a check on the awards, and generally "police" their particular locality. Being men vested with authority, they come in for criticism from some of my contributors. To which criticisms I will now pass.

One word before recapitulating them. It is not my intention to name my contributors in this section. I have tried throughout this book, whilst giving full scope to expressions of personal technical opinion, to avoid the personal in objective—perhaps not so easy a task as it appears on the surface. Were I to give the names of the critics and fault-finders I am now about to quote I should certainly add considerable authority to most of the criticisms; on the other hand, by letting these critics speak anonymously, their objections and suggestions can be judged on their own merits, which I am perfectly sure they all desire, and not by the light of their individuality. Moreover, here and there comes a suggestion which might give pain or create prejudice were an authority attached

to it; it cannot do so where the expression of opinion is impersonal. The object of this chapter is to let those whom I have designated the "Masters of the Dog" see themselves as others see them, and to ventilate public opinion on matters in which the dog-public is interested. The destinies of the twentieth century dog have been and are intimately bound up in the legislation that controls and the exhibition that exploits it; since we have criticised the dog, it is not out of place to criticise its masters, for they derive their power and influence from the dog. It may be contended that such a disquisition is outside the sphere of this book: from that view I beg to differ. The vast volume of correspondence I have received on the topics I am now about to touch on satisfies me they are of great interest, and, in some cases, topics which could not be discussed except in a neutral publication of this sort, absolutely free from all influences that might be able to stifle discussion. The conditions which govern the dog-world are of vital importance to the exhibitor and owner. He supports the masters of the dog, who are dealt with in this chapter, and I am very glad to be able to give him an opportunity of expressing his opinion, from a general point of view, on affairs in general.

## THE KENNEL CLUB

This institution naturally comes in for a great deal of comment, and I select the two following contributions as sounding the bottom and top notes of the scale of commendation:—

I think dog-legislation should be enacted by a popularly-elected body, although, but for a tendency to over-legislate, the Kennel Club could hardly be improved upon.

I am quite content to leave dog-legislation in the hands of the Kennel Club committee, who are a body of gentlemen above suspicion, sportsmen in the truest acceptation of the word, and men who play the game for the game's sake only.

Between this qualified and unqualified praise there is a large expression of intermediate opinion, but, in a general view, the "Contents" with the existing condition of things altogether swamp the "Non-contents," although a great number of contributors have suggestions to make, covering a wide area of extended energy and usefulness. Thus various correspondents urge that the Kennel Club should take up the cudgels more energetically on the questions of quarantine, railway rates, better accommodation for dogs in rail transit, dog licenses, and vivisection—a comprehensive programme, not shared by many who think "we are suffering from over-legislation." And for practical suggestions, here are a few duties urged on the legislators of Grafton Street:—

A Kennel Club official should be deputed to attend all shows, to see that they are conducted properly and in accordance with their rules or license.

The Kennel Club should require a balance-sheet of every show to be submitted for its audit and approval, and the issue of the next license should be conditional on the conduct of the previous show having been satisfactory.

The Kennel Club should exercise a more efficient supervision over the award of special prizes, the distribution of which is liable to abuse, as there is no check on them, and "schemers" sometimes get what they ought not to win.

The Kennel Club should so legislate that there should be no award of prizes where there is no competition, but only entry fees returned; the first in a class of one, the second in a class of two, and the third in a class of three, should certainly not be allowed to enjoy the "honour" of "winning." At present a lot of poor dogs win prizes absolutely without competition, and acquire a fictitious value they have no right to.

The Kennel Club should license judges, which is far more important than licensing shows; no judge should be allowed to

adjudicate who is not on their list, and no judge should be allowed to get on their list without a very substantial proof of his capacity and integrity.

The Kennel Club should insist on all prize money being paid within a month instead of three. There is no credit given for entry money—why should such a long credit be given for the payment of the prize money? It is small enough in all conscience. *Bis dat qui cito dat.*

The Kennel Club should limit the number of shows; many to which they grant a license do the dog-world much more harm than good. They have done much to raise the standard of the dog-world, but some of the licenses they grant have an opposite effect.

With regard to the increased fee for registration there is a whirlwind of dissatisfaction, with no corresponding suggestion of how to raise revenue to carry on the working of the increasing organisation. But there is a very large body of opinion that all dogs ought to be registered, especially dogs that win prizes at licensed shows, and that compulsory registration all round would enable the old scale to be resumed. On this point the "tip top" of the fancy are practically unanimous, and many contributors give instances that have occurred, to their personal knowledge, of the abuses arising and the fraud resulting from dogs not being registered, and winning at different shows under different names. Writes one gentleman, dramatically: "The Kennel Club should be, or not be. *Aut Cæsar aut nullus!* It should grasp the nettle. It should insist that every dog shown under the Club's ægis is capable of being traced and spotted in its registers. Dog owners who object to this, when the fee is only 1s., are not the sort of fanciers that we want at our shows. An unregistered dog is a premium on false pretence."

Turning now to those fanciers who desire a representative body to rule the dog-world, there is a strong

and clamorous minority in its favour—stronger in expression than in numbers. Here are four expressions of opinion couched in moderate language:—

The ruling body in the dog-world should be elected by the fanciers at large, and there should be district councils to settle disputed points. At present only the rich can afford to attend at Grafton Street and give evidence. It is hard, because an exhibitor cannot afford to make a long and expensive journey to get judgment in a dispute which can, under no circumstances, "pay expenses," that an award may go against him.

The Council of Representatives should be the House of Commons of the dog-world, with full administrative powers, the Kennel Club occupying the more dignified position of a House of Lords with power to veto. I make no doubt they would usually be wise enough to confirm legislation.

All new legislation should be first referred to the Council of Representatives. They are in closer touch with exhibitors than the Kennel Club.

The specialist clubs should combine and manage their own affairs.

In none of these, or the many other similar expressions of opinion I could quote, are any charges of mal-legislation brought against the Kennel Club (apart from the irritation displayed at the increased fees), and the indignation of the writers appears to spring from the font of pure principle—to wit, that taxation should be accompanied by representation. "Antiquated" and "not quite reasonable at times" are the worst species of abuse hurled at the elders of Grafton Street; and there are those who predict that "if the Down with Everything Brigade should, by any chance, 'wipe out' the Kennel Club, their next proceeding will be to turn and rend one another." That in this year of grace there is "agitation in the air" against the ruling authority no one can deny who reads the dog-press, but I think the Kennel Club has the loyal support of the overwhelming majority

of those for whom it has done so much, and, on the whole, so well.

## Dog Shows

Dog shows lead to much debate, and the thing that has astonished me most is that, in the universal condemnation of three-days' shows, the third day should have survived. I think 80 per cent of my contributors protest against the third day—some of them very vehemently. The case for the exhibitor is succinctly summed up in the following words:—

> We go to compete for honour, not to turn ourselves into a public show. We pay highly for permission to compete,—in entry fees, in the heavy expenses we are put to to get our dogs to the show, and, in a lesser degree, by the vexatious regulations which appear to regard the exhibitor as some one to be legitimately bled. For our purpose a one-day's show is quite sufficient; for the showman's purpose a two-days' show should be the limit of concession; the third day is an imposition on the body of dog-owners, who are the backbone of a show, and accorded the least consideration of any connected with it. The pleasure of showing one's dog is completely spoilt by the purgatory of what is practically imprisonment for a much longer period than is necessary or reasonable.

There is an equally strong condemnation of the number of one-day shows, and of their quality. "There are too many shows; many of them of the poorest and most trumpery description."—"One hears dog-show secretaries howling for entries. It is a case of dog eat dog. Halve the shows and you would double the entries."

And here are some very weighty opinions on dog shows in general:—

> I am firmly of opinion that every show should be held under Kennel Club rules, and every dog registered at the Kennel Club. There are far too many shows—especially small shows, which

answer no good purpose in either cultivating or educating the public taste, or in improving the standard of the various breeds of dogs. If shows were held only under Kennel Club rules it would do much to prevent fraud, and at the same time safeguard the purchasers of dogs, and help to make dog-showing a real pleasure, as it was some years ago, before the commercial spirit took such a hold upon the fancy.

There are too many shows got up for the purpose of making money by individuals, and this could in a great measure be stopped by the Kennel Club refusing to allow the cancellation of classes.

I consider dog shows necessary for the maintenance of the high standard of the various breeds, but they are often abused by exhibitors for pecuniary benefit and self-advertisement, rather than for the benefit of the dogs.

There are too many dog shows. Fewer, with better prize-money, would, I am sure, do more for the advancement of the different breeds, besides making the winners of more value. The only way to prevent fraud is to insist on all dogs being registered.

And to condense many other opinions and suggestions into a running paragraph: "Championships are too easily gained; the judges should be more strictly enjoined to withhold from exhibits those who do not merit the award."—"It should require five challenge wins to gain the title of 'Champion.'"—"Championships should be gained under three different judges." (This regulation is now in force.) "After winning three championships a dog should be debarred from competing (!)."—"There are too many special prizes given, and sometimes girt with conditions which are equivalent to allocating them before they are competed for. I have known fanciers (?) get friends to give specials which only their own dogs could win under the conditions laid down. This is not playing the game."—"There are too many classifications; fewer subdivisions and better prizes would raise the standard of competition."—"The hours should be more reasonable; at

present it is hard to say whether they are more cruel to the dogs or to the owners."—"The benches ought to be more roomy, and have a wire door in front to prevent the public teasing the dogs."—"Larger rings and clear rings. All outsiders out!" (a very frequently expressed opinion).—"Only one 'V.H.C.,' 'H.C.,' and 'C.' card should be awarded in each class. The present plurality makes the distinction a farce."—"The judging should begin with puppy class and wind up with the open; the juniors would come to the ring fresh, and have a chance of catching the judge's eye if they were of striking merit."—"The prize cards should be awarded in the ring, and so avoid the Blind Man's Buff system that obtains at present."—"The hour for judging should be stated in the catalogue, and adhered to. Judges should be fined if they are not punctual."—"No judge should be allowed to judge more than three breeds at a big show in the short-hour days; it is unfair on many dogs to be judged by artificial light."—"The benches should be wider; many of the bigger breeds of dogs are greatly cramped in the insufficient space allotted them."—"The veterinary arrangements want to be stricter; as they exist at present there can be no full examination" (many times repeated).—"The benches should be well white-washed after use, and the wire partitions between them replaced by enamel-ware screens, so that they can be thoroughly and easily cleaned."

Although there is some contradictory opinion in these suggestions, there is much food for reflection. I have not harped again on the woes of the exhibitor himself, though I am not without many indignant protests against the little consideration with which he is treated. For, after all, the exhibitor ought to be able to look after himself, which the dumb animal cannot

do. My only regret is that I have not been able to get the opinions of some dogs themselves on the system of exhibiting them! I think they would have some tales to tell where they have been sent to shows without anyone in charge of them. It is too often taken for granted that every dog has an owner looking after it, and I have seen some well-trained dogs suffer very acutely from the absence of some one to attend to their wants. But these are cases where the exhibitor is more to blame than the people in charge of the show. Could I have my will, no dog should be allowed at a show that was not attended by its owner; but then, again, the owner that can send a dog to a show, much as he might consign goods to auction, is probably not the individual to pay much attention to his dog after the awards are over. I have heard people say that their dogs "like shows"; my own impression is that dogs loathe them. How to make them decently comfortable for the dogs is a problem none of my contributors have attempted to indicate.

## JUDGES AND JUDGING

Without doubt the judge is the most important and responsible personage connected with dog-showing; he is a despot; he has no jury to assist or control his actions, and he is fallible. In the criticisms of judges, as a class, I have endeavoured to eliminate all those papers,—and they were not a few,—which indicated, however remotely, a personal bias, leaving for quotation only those which, I believe, from the status of the writers (many of them judges themselves), were penned from a righteous conviction that the matters they mention want remedying. Upon the merits of these I express no further opinion, and I give them in the good faith

in which I have accepted them, only expressing my cordial agreement with that dictum which may be conveyed in the words, "Don't speak to the man at the wheel."

I consider that judges at dog shows have the whole success of a breed in their care. Incompetent, and, still worse, prejudiced judging, does incalculable harm. Many a man is afraid of offending his friends, and to such a man I would say, "Don't risk it; stay outside." Others desire to please all the exhibitors, and to such a man I would also say, "Don't risk it; stay outside. You are aiming at the impossible." If a man has, in the kindness of his heart, undertaken to judge, and discovers when the dogs are round him that he has undertaken a task beyond his ability, he must do the best he can, and realise for the future that his abilities lie in another direction. Many men, with an excellent knowledge of a dog, have not the "judging ability," and I see no reason why they should be ashamed of it, any more than of the absence of any other peculiar faculty. Why exhibitors should appear to a judge in the light of roaring lions, anxious to rend him to pieces, passes my knowledge. As far as my experience goes, the man who palpably does his best, without fear or favour, and more especially if he has done his work in a methodical manner, has his errors readily excused. It is the man who tries to please all exhibitors who brings upon himself universal condemnation for a weak-kneed performance. The prejudiced judge we must always suffer from in the existing condition of humanity.

All judges should be licensed by the Kennel Club, and appointed by them after the entries are closed for each show. There should be no "following a judge." No judge should be allowed to adjudicate who is not qualified in character and ability. The all-round judge should be discarded entirely.

Paid judges should never, under any circumstances, be employed at shows under Kennel Club rules or license.

It is quite time the professional judge was done away with.

No individual judge should be allowed to judge a particular breed more than twice in the year. To be consistent he must repeat himself, and his views are known.

Far be it from me to criticise those gentlemen who are good enough to spend time and money, and brave enough to act as judges at dog shows! At the same time I think the ranks of judges might be widened with advantage both to themselves and exhibitors. Not that I am anxious to see more "amateurs rush

in where angels fear to tread," but why cannot we persuade some of the old veterans, who really have knowledge, to give us the benefit of their experience? I am afraid the fault lies largely with those exhibitors (I don't call them fanciers) who, when they do not get what they consider their dues, do not scruple to make things unpleasant for the judge. What inducement is there for a man who really knows his subject to expose himself to such treatment?

It is preferable always to have gentlemen for judges; exhibitors abide more willingly by their decisions, whether favourable or otherwise, than by those of ladies.

Lady judges are afraid to speak their own mind; they should be barred. Whilst giving them every credit for *trying* to give the best dog first, can we imagine the tender-hearted creatures allowing their best and dearest friends to go out of the ring empty-handed?

The rule against speaking to the judge in the ring should be more strictly enforced. The judge should not know the name of the dog he is judging, or of its owner.

Judging rings should be kept more strictly, and no exhibitors should address a judge about their exhibit. The rule against it is often more honoured in the breach than in the observance.

A judge who gets "catalogue information" from a ring steward should be disqualified; no catalogue should be allowed in the ring during judging.

No officials, especially ring stewards, should handle or have any connection with dogs shown in the ring they are stewarding.

No one wearing a badge connected in any way with the show should be allowed to lead a dog into the ring for judging.

All judges should be specialists. I would not allow owners to show their own dogs in the ring. There should be no combing, brushing, etc., after the dogs have entered the ring.

I think it a mistake for owners to lead their dogs into the ring; in some cases it is not the dog, but the other end of the lead that is judged; but I am quite aware that this is a difficult problem to deal with.

I would like all dogs to be brought into the ring by disinterested parties.

It would be very much fairer if owners, or their keepers, did not lead their dogs into the ring.

I cannot help but think that in dog-judging there is a good deal in whom the dog belongs to.

A great many judges go for the owners and not the dogs.

They should go straight bang for the dog, point for point, without fear or favour. Some judges will tell you they know the dogs too well to go over them properly when judging.

I think it very undesirable that dealers and professional exhibitors should judge. By these terms I mean those who make a livelihood chiefly by these means. I have not a word to say against the class, amongst whom are to be found many most respectable and trustworthy persons. But I do not think they can take the independent attitude needful in a judge.

A judge should be chosen for his ability and integrity; a person who makes his livelihood by trafficking in dogs, directly or indirectly, is not in my opinion a proper person to act as a judge; and the person who studies his pockets is not worthy of the name of judge. This is strong language, I know, but *experientia docet*, and it will be appreciated by those who, like myself, wish to see the best dog win.

There are too many amateur judges. A judge of a dog, like a judge of a horse, is born—not made.

I should like to see three judges in the ring instead of one. Judging is too much a matter of individual taste.

Judges should judge according to the recognised standard of the type of the breed, and not according to their own ideas.

Judges ought periodically to attend club meetings, and imbibe a review of the points laid down by the clubs.

Judges who give obviously bad decisions should be hauled up before the Kennel Club to explain them; and if their explanation is unsatisfactory they should be disqualified from further judging, on the broad grounds of ignorance of their duties.

In quoting these selected expressions of opinion I have left out many referring to judging at minor shows, which take a much stronger view than any I have recapitulated. I look upon them rather as an argument in favour of that opinion so many of my contributors have expressed as to the propriety of doing away with superfluous and trumpery shows, which are not conducted for the good of the dog, but the benefit of owners.

## THE DOG-PRESS

The dog-world is well served by those journals devoted to its interests, and it is really wonderful what an amount you can obtain of information which must be expensive to collect, for your penny. If I might hazard a criticism, I should like to see a tabulated form of reports for the wins at dog shows, and the employment of a larger size of type. I do not know whether there are any general grounds for the belief that dog-lovers have eyes like microscopes, but that is the quality of vision you require to go through some of the reports submitted, and for myself, when I want to read them I always ring up a messenger boy, and charter him for the job. I have had the curiosity to estimate the amount of information squeezed into a single column of one of the leading dog-papers, and I find it contains 1800 names, initials, and abbreviations. The column measured $12\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$ inches; if I call it crowded I shall not be exaggerating. Personally, I should be very grateful if it were less so, for it debars me from the pleasure of reading it; and I doubt not others suffer similarly.

This brings me to a matter whereon I have received a great number of communications—so many that I should not feel justified in ignoring them. I will quote half a dozen only—or rather those parts of them which are the pith of the complaints without the comments, which are more explanatory than polite:—

I should like to say that I disapprove of the way some of the papers permit exhibitors to write for them critiques of shows at which they have been exhibiting. The possibility of any owner "cracking up" his dog to the disparagement of a more successful competitor should be rendered impossible, and I fear there are quite too many instances of the practice to be met with.

I should like to speak about the critiques of dogs at shows as given in the doggy-papers, which are often written by your ring

rivals. Although probably very little notice of these reports is taken by the fancy, still it is the only means the public have of learning about a dog. You cannot expect to get a fair critique from an exhibitor on his successful rival's dog.

I consider that the system adopted by some of the canine papers in employing exhibitors as critics of dogs on the bench is unfair, unsportsmanlike, and opens the door to many abuses by which some exhibitors' dogs are praised at the expense of those belonging to other people, who do not enter their dogs to be an object lesson for such a purpose.

I do not think a disappointed exhibitor should be allowed to write criticisms on other exhibitors' dogs for publication, as is often done in the dog-papers.

I am afraid the reports of dog shows are not what they used to be ; in fact to stay at home and read the papers' accounts of the dogs is often very misleading. There are "influences" which sometimes suggest themselves.

I wish the dog-papers would encourage the judges themselves to write the critiques, like the Kennel Gazette does. It is rather trying to read the same writers week after week, especially when some of those writers have dogs of their own to mention.

There remain two subjects to be touched on, which perhaps do not rightly come within the scope of this chapter, and are yet so pithily put that I must spare space for them.

## Dog Licenses

"I consider legislation is required with regard to dog licenses. They should either be transferable, or hold good for twelve months. Take a case of a litter of greyhounds whelped in March: the following September a license must be taken out; another in the following January. In March or April the saplings are sold at the Barbican Repository, when a third license is required for the same dog within seven months."

## QUARANTINE

"I consider the quarantine regulations as idiotic and useless. Because a dog can stand on his head and jump through a hoop he is admitted without quarantine, and though supposed to be shut up there is no means of seeing that he is. Wolves, dingos, and jackals are admitted freely without quarantine. All these animals are more liable to rabies than domestic dogs. I frequently buy wolves, and place them in my kennels with the dogs, and they go out for exercise, on a lead, with my hounds. It is also easy to avoid the quarantine, and there are certainly many dogs now in this country (and dogs as large as greyhounds) that have 'avoided' this useless and objectionable regulation."

On both these matters, as on those of railway rates and accommodation, many people have much to say, but my allotted space has come to a close, and I can only briefly indicate that there is room for reform. Vivisection, too, stirs many good dog-lovers to protest against the apathy of the Kennel Club and the dog-press in the *laiser faire* attitude they have adopted. But this, again, is travelling out of my bounds, though my sympathies are certainly with those who hold that the true dog-fancier should first and foremost be a dog-lover, and that a world which derives its power and profit from the dog should champion the unprotected and oppressed, and lend its influence to a good and righteous cause.

# HOUNDS

*A. Horner, photo.*

MAID MARION.

*A. Horner, photo.*

*Ch.* LOUIS LE BEAU.

BASSET-HOUNDS.

PLATE II.

## THE BASSET-HOUND

ALTHOUGH of comparatively modern introduction into England the basset-hound represents one of the most ancient breeds in Europe. It is, moreover, a type that has undergone but little change for some centuries, for you may see, interworked on the tapestries of the Middle Ages, a species of dog that bears a marked resemblance to the subject of this section. The late Sir Everett Millais, P.R.A., has always been regarded as a leading authority on the breed; and although he was not actually the first to import it, he was the first to systematically breed the basset, to popularise the fancy, and to compile the Stud Book issued by the Basset-Hound Club — a most useful publication for breeders, which Mrs. Tottie, another noted fancier and authority, has corrected and written up to 1900.

There exist many species of the basset-hound, although the varieties in England are, in practice, confined to two—the smooth and the rough. But in France, Austria, and Germany there are numerous types peculiar to the different districts. The name itself merely means "dwarfed," and a basset-hound is in nomenclature and practice a dwarfed hound. It was evolved from the *Chiens Courant*, or running hounds similar to our own, designedly and by selection and skilful breeding. The object sought after was to

obtain a hound with the hunting instincts and abilities of the fleeter dogs, but with its powers of running restricted, so as to enable it to serve sportsmen who followed the game a-foot; and this has made it the most useful and popular dog with the enthusiasts who indulge in *la chasse* on the Continent, and to whose genius in venery it is admirably suited.

The basset-hound does not appear to have received its present designation until about the end of the sixteenth century, being known previously to that as the *chien d'Artois;* but the gradual process of its evolution must have been going on before that date. It is not improbable that the *basset Français* shares with the *basset Allemand*, or dachshund, a common origin; but in the process of development the latter has been crossed with the terrier type, and has lost some of those marked characteristics of the true hound which remain the very soul and core of the basset-hound fancier's admiration. The dachshund will be dealt with in its own place, whilst this article is confined to that species of dwarf dog which is purely French.

In France there are many types of the basset, for they are divided into smooth (*basset Français*) and rough (*basset Griffon*), and these again are subdivided into straight-legged (*basset à jambes droites*), half-crooked-legged (*basset à jambes demi-tortues*), and crooked-legged (*basset à jambes tortues*), so that there are six families, without going into more minute distinctions. But in England we know only the smooth and the rough, the former being crooked-legged, and the latter half-crooked, or nearly straight.

The basset is a hound of an unorthodox build, for whilst the body is of full dimensions, with colour, conformation, and head all hound-like, the legs are mere apologies that elevate the chest less than three inches

from the ground, and the straightness we associate with perfection in our hounds, by a queer topsy-turveyism, is exchanged for a knock-kneed front. From an artistic point of view an otherwise beautiful hound is deprived of all its symmetrical proportion. Thus a famous early importation, called *Model*, whilst only 12 inches high at the shoulder, was nearly 44 inches in length from the tip of the nose to the tip of the tail, and a body girthing 25 inches round the chest was set but 2¾ inches from the ground. This grotesque proportion will be better estimated by a glance at the illustrations.

Of course there was a "method in this madness." In the opinion of the late Sir Everett Millais the necessity for a slow-running hound to suit the restricted opportunities of the chase arose when the pursuit of smaller ground game and rabbits had to suffice for the generations to whom deer and boar were denied by their extinction, or their preservation by kings and nobles. The smaller game required a slower hound, and a slower hound opened new vistas of sport for folks who could not afford to ride on horseback. The most practical way to restrict speed was the elementary one of restricting length of leg; the shortest-legged hounds were selected for interbreeding, and by the evolution of species a most useful and practical deformity was arrived at. To this day the basset-hound is most popular with and useful to the French sportsman. Moreover, they have a fascination all their own, and the basset-fancier is a dog devotee of an extraordinarily earnest and enthusiastic description, with whose susceptibilities you must not trifle when you are commenting on and criticising his favourites.

The first basset-hounds imported into England came as a present to Lord Galway in the beginning of the

'Seventies, and from him passed to Lord Onslow They were of a famous strain, known as the Le Couteulx hounds, bred by the Comte le Couteulx at his estate near Etrepagny, in France. But the variety did not attract any serious attention until Sir Everett Millais became interested in it, and in the year 1874 imported a fine hound called *Model*, which, with another, *Fino de Paris*, were considered the two best in France. In 1877 Lord Onslow imported another dog and bitch from the Le Couteulx kennels, and from this small beginning the English fancy has been developed. In 1880 basset-hounds were exhibited for the first time at a show in this country; by 1886, at the Dachshund and Basset-Hound Show at the Aquarium, no less than 120 specimens of the breed were benched, and as in the meantime the late Mr. G. R. Krehl had imported *Fino de Paris*, the cult started with two of the acknowledged best dogs in the breed. But the concomitant result of this natural increase from such a small original stock was in-breeding, and although this stamped type, especially in the case of *Fino de Paris*' numerous progeny, it also introduced abnormal delicacy of constitution, a distressing mortality from distemper, impotency in the dogs, and barrenness in the bitches. Moreover, there was a deterioration apparent in size and bone, and so, after nearly twenty years, Sir Everett determined to introduce an out-cross in order to obtain better stamina.

His selection fell on the bloodhound as the best allied species, and the experiment that followed was an exceedingly interesting one. There was no mating of the hounds, but a litter of puppies was artificially germinated in the bitch by a process called "insemination" — a scientific experiment more marvellously

striking than any in horticulture. By these extraordinary means twelve whelps were created, which favoured the basset in conformation and the bloodhound dam in colour. The progeny were bred back to a pure basset, and in the third generation the descendants regained all the basset characteristics, and were indistinguishable from pure specimens of the breed. They also regained the bone and size that had been sacrificed to type by in-breeding. In the fourth generation, to complete the interest of the unique experiment, there was one case of "avatism"—a whelp born that "threw back" to the bloodhound great-grandparent in colour. Scientifically thought out and preconsidered, and successfully carried through, this famous experiment is certainly the most interesting in the whole history of dog-breeding. The only regret that remains is that the benefit attained does not appear to have been permanent, or to have cured the evils it was meant to cope with to a very great extent.

Although in France chiefly, if not wholly, used for driving out game to the gun, in England the basset has been annexed for the chase, and a few packs established for hare-hunting. They take their time over the run, and the linked sweetness long drawn out may last as long as a fashionable comedy; but, slow and sure, like the tortoise of the tale, does oftentimes accomplish its ultimate end, and I fancy a hare coursed by basset-hounds must eat uncommonly tender.

Apart from speed bassets are everything that can be desired in hunting hounds. Stay—I forgot! They have, on occasions, to be lifted over obstacles in the field; and though it is a libel to say that if you started them between the lines of a railway they would, by that wall-like obstacle, be confined to the iron track, it is none the less true that in many crises they

are checked, if not checkmated, in their endeavours, unless the helpful hand assists them at places which their peculiar anatomy cannot negotiate.

On the other hand, there are compensations in their delightful music, in their keen powers of scent, and in their indomitable perseverance; and since you can keep in touch with them with the minimum of exertion required in any hunting field, they afford a fine object-lesson and an interesting illustration of the hunting methods and abilities of a true hound.

With regard to the type of the breed as it exists to-day, the following are the observations and notes of some of the leading fanciers:—

MR. GEORGE MUSSON (Hon. Sec. of the Basset Club).—I am satisfied with type. There is, however, an opinion amongst hunting men (which I do not share) that the basset should be bred somewhat more on the leg to increase speed. The result of in-breeding is the cause of the comparatively little interest at present exhibited in the breed. Dozens of people have kept bassets in my experience of twenty years, and their ill success in breeding, and serious losses through death from distemper, etc., have caused them to give up the breed. Bassets are in very few hands now. These hounds require more attention in breeding than most dogs. I have kept none other for years, and have been fairly successful. They require little exercise, and are quiet, contented dogs. Their great characteristic is their wonderful scent in hunting.

MR. CROXTON SMITH.—I do not think the present-day hound is as good as the *best* of ten years ago; but, taking an average, I do not think there is much of which we can complain. In one respect there is a decided improvement; unsound hounds can no longer win on the bench, and we have done away with the reproach that hounds incapable of working are awarded prizes. The basset is a fascinating little hound, capable of great attachment to its owner. Those who use them for hare-hunting are loud in their praise. There is no doubt that they give excellent sport, and their music is nearly equal to that of the bloodhound. A gentleman who uses a couple in Natal finds them better than any other breed of hound for driving small deer out of the bush to the guns.

CAPTAIN HESELTINE.—Sufficient attention is not given by breeders to the body, back, loins, legs, and feet of the modern hound. It is absurd that nearly 75 of the point values should be credited to head and hide. The Walhampton basset-hounds are kept entirely for the sport which they show in pursuit of the hare to an unmounted field. Very steep banks or very deep ditches may check the pack, but the hare usually runs her smeuse, or under a gate, and where she goes the pack seldom requires assistance to follow; they will get through almost any smeuse in the thickest fence. On a fair scenting day they keep the field, running their best pace for an hour.

MR. CLAUDE MORRISON.—There is a tendency to sacrifice type for soundness in limb. If one is breeding a hound simply for speed, there are other breeds which will suit the purpose. But the basset-hound was not bred for pack-hunting, but for tracking game in the forest, and so allowing the sportsman to keep up with him. In assessing the points of the hound I should consider the most important to be the general type, viz.—Head properties, lowness of body and crook, and length of body; after that soundness. Colour should not make any difference either way. My "ideal" basset-hound is Ch. *Queen of the Geisha*, with the exception that she is too high on the leg, and, for a bitch, a trifle thick in skull; otherwise she is perfect, and in addition a nice-coloured hound. The present-day basset-hound wants an out-cross every fourth generation to keep up stamina, as practically all our best dogs are of the "Forester" strain, and unsoundness follows on too much in-breeding. But as that is the only strain we have got to go on to preserve type, we must stick to it, and out-cross occasionally. As a pet and a companion the basset-hound has scarcely an equal. Rather timid by nature, he can fight, when aroused, with larger dogs than himself. Personally I fancy the breed for its faithfulness and independence.

MRS. A. F. STANTON considers the modern dogs too in-bred. Their fascination lies in their beautiful voices, grand expression, and heads; also they hunt most perseveringly, and are altogether such sporting dogs. They make the most delightful house companions, and no hound can be more faithful.

The following is the Standard of Points of the smooth basset-hound (drawn up by the late Mr. Krehl, I believe), and published by the Basset-hound Club in their book:—

## STANDARD OF POINTS OF THE SMOOTH BASSET

HEAD.—Is most perfect when it resembles closest a bloodhound's. It is long and narrow, with heavy flews, occiput prominent (*la bosse de la chasse*), and forehead wrinkled to the eyes, which should be kind and show the haw. The general appearance of the head must present high breeding and reposeful dignity. The teeth are small, and the upper jaw sometimes protrudes. This is not a fault, and is called *bec de lièvre*.

EARS.—Are very long, and, when drawn forward, folding well over the nose—so long that in hunting they will often actually tread on them. They are set on low, and hang in folds like drapery, the ends inward curling. In texture thin and velvety.

NECK.—Is powerful, with heavy dewlaps. Elbows must not turn out. The chest is deep, full, and framed like a "man-of-war."

BODY.—Long and low.

FORE LEGS.—Short, about 4 inches in length, and close-fitting to the chest till the crooked knee, from whence the wrinkled ankle ends in a massive paw, each toe standing out distinctly.

HIND LEGS.—The stifles are bent, and the quarters full of muscle, which stand out so that when one looks at the dog from behind it gives him a barrel-like effect. This, with their peculiar waddling gait, goes a long way towards basset character—a quality easily recognised by the judge, and as desirable as terrier character in a terrier.

STERN.—Is coarse underneath, and carried hound-fashion.

COAT.—Is short, smooth, and fine, and has a gloss on it like a race-horse's. (To get this appearance they should be hound-gloved—never brushed.) Skin loose and elastic.

COLOUR.—Should be black, white, and tan; the head, shoulders, and quarters a rich tan, and black patches on the back. They are also sometimes hare-pied.

POINT VALUES—

| | |
|---|---|
| Head, skull, eyes, muzzle, and flews | 15 |
| Ears | 15 |
| Neck, dewlap, chest, and shoulders | 10 |
| Fore legs and feet | 15 |
| Back, loins, and hindquarters | 10 |
| Stern | 5 |
| Coat and skin | 10 |
| Colour and markings | 15 |
| "Basset character" and symmetry | 5 |
| Total | 100 |

As a comment on this I may quote from an "amended description," issued by Captain Heseltine, the master of a pack of basset-hounds, and an ardent lover of the breed. He would have the normal expression "very sad and full of reposeful dignity." He

specifically debars any suspicion of snipiness, and considers an overshot or underhung jaw distinctly objectionable. "The eyes should be deeply sunken, and of a deep brown colour; the fore legs short, very powerful, very heavy in bone, close fitting to the chest, with a crooked knee and wrinkled ankle ending in a massive paw. A hound must not be out at elbows, which is a bad fault. He must stand perfectly true and sound on his feet, which should be thick and massive, and the weight of the fore part of the body borne equally by each toe of the front feet, so far as this is compatible with the crook of the legs. Unsoundness in legs or feet should absolutely disqualify a hound from being awarded a prize in the show ring." The coat should be similar to that of a foxhound—not too fine and not too coarse, and only in the closest competition should colour have any weight.

The point values in Captain Heseltine's description of the hound differ so much from those adopted by the Basset-hound Club that I give them in their entirety:—

CAPTAIN HESELTINE'S POINT VALUES OF THE BASSET-HOUND—

| | |
|---|---|
| Head, skull, eyes, flews, and muzzle | 14 |
| Ears | 10 |
| Neck, dewlap, chest, and shoulders | 18 |
| Fore legs and feet | 18 |
| Back, loins, hocks, and hindquarters | 18 |
| Stern | 5 |
| Coat and skin | 5 |
| Colour and markings | 5 |
| "Basset character" and symmetry | 7 |
| Total | 100 |

Lastly, in the *American Book of the Dog* there is a third scale of point values given, viz.—Head, 25; neck and chest, 10; fore legs and feet, 15; ribs and loin, 10; hindquarters and stern, 10; coat, 10; colour, 10; size

and symmetry, 10—total, 100. This authority also observes, "Head rather narrow, long and well-peaked, with little or no stop; jaws long, strong, and level; nose usually black, but some good ones have had considerable white about their's," and admits an "affectionate, intelligent, and good-humoured expression, though occasionally reflective and melancholy." And with regard to size and symmetry, "bassets come in all sizes from 9 to 12 inches at shoulder, and at from 26 to 48 lbs. in weight. The best size is about 11 to 12 inches at the shoulder, and from 40 to 45 lbs. in weight. The hound has more bone in proportion to its size than any other breed, and symmetry is an important point in its make-up."

The following is the Standard of Points for the rough basset, which differs a good deal from the smooth. Sir Everett Millais describes them as like otter-hounds in form, texture, and colour of coat. There are many varieties on the Continent, but they lack the castey, aristocratic finish of the smooth basset-hound, and have never been bred to the same pitch of perfection, or achieved the same popularity, although at one time they attracted the interest of Her Majesty, who used to enter a couple occasionally for competition at the leading shows. In the last four years of the Kennel Club Show the entries of the smooth variety have averaged nearly forty each year, whilst those of the rough come out at less than five entries per show. The Basset-hound Club's Stud Book registers about 1400 of the former and less than 200 of the latter.

STANDARD OF POINTS OF THE ROUGH BASSET

HEAD.—Should be large, the skull narrow but of good length, the peak well developed. The muzzle should be strong and the jaws long and powerful. A snipey muzzle and weakness of jaw are objectionable.

*A. Horner, photo.*

*Ch.* TAMBOUR.

*From a Painting by B. Fee.*

*Ch.* PURITAN and *Ch.* PRISCILLA.

ROUGH BASSET-HOUNDS.

PLATE III.

The eyes should be dark and not prominent. The ears should be set on low, of good length and not prominent.

NECK.—Should be strong, of good length, and muscular; set on sloping shoulders.

BODY.—Should be massive, of good length and well ribbed up, any weakness or slackness of loin being a bad fault. The chest should be large and very deep; the sternum prominent.

FORE LEGS.—Should be short and very powerful, very heavy in bone, and either nearly straight or half-crooked. The elbows should lie against the sides of the chest, and should not turn out.

HINDQUARTERS.—Should be powerful and muscular; the hind legs should be rather longer than the fore legs, and well bent at the stifles.

STERN.—Of moderate length, and carried gaily. It should be set on high.

COAT.—Is an extremely important point. It should be profuse, thick and harsh to the touch, with a dense undercoat. The coat may be wavy.

COLOUR.—Any recognised hound-colour.

WEIGHT.—Dogs, 40-45 lbs.; bitches, rather less.

GENERAL APPEARANCE.—The rough basset should appear a very powerful hound for his size, and on short strong legs. The feet should be thick, well-padded, and not open. Body massive and good length, without slackness of loin. The expression should be kindly and intelligent. Any unsoundness should disqualify the hound.

POINT VALUES—

| | |
|---|---|
| Head and ears | 20 |
| Body, including hindquarters | 35 |
| Legs and feet | 20 |
| Coat | 15 |
| Basset "character" etc. | 10 |
| Total | 100 |

For my illustrations I have been fortunate in obtaining three honnds from Mrs. Tottie's famous kennels. Ch. *Louis le Beau*, by Ch. Paris *ex* Gravity, was born in 1891, and during his phenomenal career won fifteen championships, and other prizes innumerable. The vignette of the head of *Maid Marion*, a daughter of Ch. Forester, indicates the most beautiful type of basset countenance and expression. In rough bassets Ch. *Tambour*, the winner of nine championships, represents a pillar of the stud; and the second illustration, Ch. *Puritan* and Ch. *Priscilla* (from an oil-painting by Mr. B. Fee), are two of his progeny, and belong to Mr. H. H. Taylor. These five famous hounds represent the *crême de la crême* of basset-hound blood in England, and were bred by Mrs. Tottie.

## THE BEAGLE

THE descent of the beagle has been traced to the time of the Plantagenets by writers who have sought to ally it with the brach, brache, or bratche, and some of its admirers claim for it the honour of being the oldest of our modern hunting hounds. Without admitting the Plantagenet antiquity we may accept a Tudor one, for it is certain the little hound was a well known variety in the days of Queen Elizabeth, who kept a pack of "singing" beagles, as they were called, made up of such diminutive component parts that it was asserted a specimen could be carried in a lady's gauntlet. This oft-quoted fact has been condemned as an exaggeration by some critics of the exact, and a casual glance at the costumed figure of the Virgin Queen, seated on horseback, which may be seen at the Tower of London, does not lend any air of authority to the statement; nor, again, do any of the costumes in which she is depicted in her four oil portraits in the National Gallery. Notwithstanding, when we consider the cut of some species of mediæval gloves I think we may allow the physical possibility of such a depository for a dwarf hound, and I doubt not that many modern toy-dogs could have fitted comfortably into many ancient gauntlets.

Queen Elizabeth was not the only monarch to patronise the merry little hound. William of Orange,

POCKET OR RABBIT BEAGLE.

KERSWELL LOLLIPOP.

*Alfred Kissack, photo.*

BEAGLE.

ARCHIE.

PLATE IV.

who introduced the pug into England, also kept a pack, and there is a record of a hunt at the Duke of Portland's seat, which was attended by four hundred mounted gentlemen. A century and a quarter later another English king—George the Fourth—patronised beagles, and hunted with them on the downs at Brighton, and in one of his portraits he is painted with his pack around him. History does not tell us whether he rode straight and hard, but we know His Majesty was a

BEAGLE (1850).

famous whip, and held the record for some time for the fastest drive between London and Brighton. And of his pack it is recorded that they could cover the ground at a surprising pace, and required a good horse to keep up with them. It is also a fact, I believe, that the late Prince Consort kept a pack of very small pure white rabbit beagles.

This reads rather strangely in these modern days, when the very name of a beagle pack is associated solely with a field on foot. Thus in the list of packs of hounds catalogued under the generic name of

"Beagles," and amounting to about sixty, you find included beagles, stud-book beagles, pure-bred beagles, beagle and harrier cross, beagle-harriers, foot-harriers, pure harriers, stud-book harriers, and harriers simple, not to mention a couple of basset-hound packs—the whole ranging in height from 12 to 17 inches, and, in the case of one variety, known as "pure Kerry beagles," to 23 inches. From this conglomerate list, thirty-eight packs of beagles proper, ranging in height from 12 to 16 inches, with an absolute standard of uniformity in this respect for each pack, can be selected, two-thirds of them being 15-inch packs and over.

The beagle is closely allied to the harrier, as its classical name indicates. The former is the *Canis Leverarius Minor*, the latter *Canis Leverarius;* they are both hare-hounds, and a deviation from these hereditary duties has created somewhat a schism in the beagle world, as will be gathered from the observations of some of my contributors following later. For there is a variety of small, or as it is called "pocket," beagle, which has come to be used for rabbit-hunting, and the hare-hunting beagler has not taken kindly to this innovation, considering it implies a dereliction of the proper duty of the breed. But the pocket beagle, which measures from 8 to 10 inches at the shoulder, has many ardent devotees, who are able to defend its merits as fiercely as they have been assailed, and find in it joys, perhaps, unsuspected by its detractors.

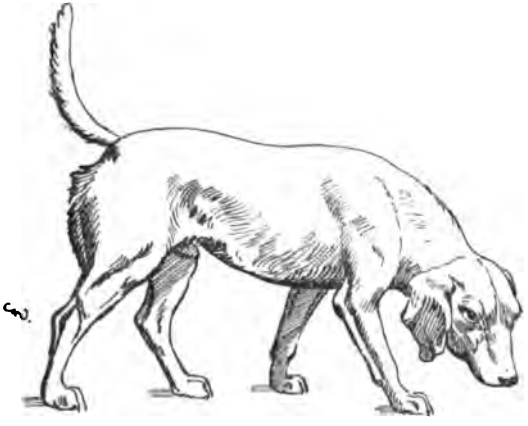
It is rather curious to note that the sporting merits of this stauch little hound have particularly endeared the breed to our American cousins, and a writer over the water chronicles the existence of over 150 packs kept by private individuals in the United States, and mentions the fact that there are nearly a thousand fanciers of the breed. The standard of height is rigor-

ously limited to 15 inches, and the hound is chiefly employed for hunting the "cotton-tail" or American hare. But it is also used for driving deer and (it is distressing to read) foxes *to the gun*. Whilst this is altogether opposed to our English ideas of hunting foxes for sport, it may be in accord with the economy of a country where they are valued for their pelts, and methodically trapped.

Although with the institution of the Peterborough Hound Show, the Beagle Club, and the Beagle Stud Book, a great improvement has taken place in the type of beagles, it is still very divergent. "When buying hounds," wrote Mr. William Macfie, the master of the famous Rock Royal beagles, "I found great difficulty in getting beagles of hound type. Each master had a different idea of what a beagle should be; some had hounds with heads and ears like fox-terriers, others like pups, and some like miniature foxhounds. So when I was asked to support a Harrier and Beagle Show at Peterborough I cordially entered into the idea. From that show has sprung the Association of Masters of Harriers and Beagles, and the foundation of the Stud Book. I hope, in time, this may result in a type as clearly defined for beagles as the foxhound show has fixed type for foxhounds." This anticipation has not yet been fully realised, though great progress has been made in the direction of uniformity. There is a great cleft, however, between the hare-beagle and the pocket beagle, which it seems, in the opinion of experts, impossible to bridge. Moreover, the variations all round are great, and do not admit of adaptability to one uniform standard. In the first place, the height ranges from 8 to 16 inches, whilst in the Kerry beagles, which still survive in the Scarteen pack in Ireland, and once represented a hound of 26 inches, the average height

is 23 inches. Then there are rough or wire-haired beagles, which must remain under a different category. But whilst these giant and rough species of beagle may be allowed to retain their own type, as impossible of being brought into line with the ordinary type, the divergence in the latter opposes an almost insuperable obstacle that apparently demands the adoption of two different standards to be successfully overcome.

The outline sketch I am able to give of Reinagle's



BEAGLE (1803). *After Reinagle.*

beagle shows what the hound was like a hundred years ago. It is, perhaps, the least pleasing of all that artist's representative dogs, more especially in the head, which is far from fascinating to look at. But Reinagle was singularly good at heads when he had a good model, as a glance at his staghound, foxhound, old southern hound, and wolf-hound will indicate. And if his beagle is an ugly-headed beast, I am afraid we must take it that the beagle of his model was not beautiful. Another illustration I reproduce, by an unknown artist,

depicts the beagle of fifty years ago, and is certainly an improvement in type on the older picture, though the long head is not in accordance with modern taste. Granted that these represent fairly individual units of the breed in the past, it is not difficult to understand the want of uniformity in the present.

Before I turn to the contributions I have received on this breed, I must find room for the following extract from the interesting Report of the Beagle Club for 1902, which is full of beagle lore, collected from the dog-press or contributed by experts. This particular excerpt is from an article on "Foot Hunting," which originally appeared in the *Stockkeeper*:—

What size beagles will show us the best sport? That is a very moot question, but the answer must depend upon the nature of the country we propose to hunt. Speaking generally, beagles are divided into three great divisions:—

First, Pocket beagles. The smaller a perfect specimen can be obtained, the more valuable it is, for the great difficulty is to preserve the characteristics of a good hound,—the straight legs, short back, and powerful loins,—in such an exceedingly small compass, for the outside limit of height allowed is 10 inches. Under certain circumstances a pack of pocket beagles is invaluable. If you are not so young as you were, if your health is doubtful, if you love to see hounds hunting but care little about the actual kill, then nothing can be better. Old, middle-aged, young—men, women, and children—can see and enjoy the whole proceedings. Some of these little packs are as keen as mustard, and afford untold pleasure and interest. If hares are unknown, or space is very limited, rabbit-hunting can, under proper management, afford excellent sport.

Next comes the 12-inch pack, and these usually include the hounds most truly typical of the breed. A good working lot in a suitable country will account for many a hare, and show beagle-hunting in perfection. Fairly capable cross-country performers can see all there is to be seen, and the "have beens," by calling upon "experience" to assist their physical powers, can enjoy most of the sport and never be far from the little pack. Twelve to 14 inches is a very favourite size with many practical beaglers.

The final division takes us to even 16 inches, the extreme height allowable in the beagle, but sometimes found useful when the master, whip, and followers are all young, the country difficult, the distances great, hares numerous, a great number of kills important, and a mounted field objected to by the landowners. Young and healthy men, in regular hard training, can for the time being perform great feats of endurance almost without knowing it, and such have enjoyed many a day with a full 16-inch pack.

The master of one, well known as being as hard as nails and always in the pink of condition, invited the master of a "pocket" pack to come and stay for "a nice home meet." The invitation was accepted. On the morning in question a start was made in a blinding snowstorm, and a stiff five-mile walk, done in the hour, brought the masters to the "home" meet by 11.30. Without a pause hounds were cast off, up jumped a hare, and away they went. For the first few hours the pocket man was in surprising form, and the field was reduced to himself, the master, and the whip. But when a third and very fresh hare jumped up, and apparently made for the next county, with the master and pack in close attendance, the visitor sank into a walk, and was soon out of sight, and before long out of hearing, not a creature or human habitation within sight, snow falling, and an absoluteiy strange country. He thought fondly of his pocket pack at home—they never treated him like this! But before absolute despair claimed him as a victim, a vigorous and prolonged horn-winding from a hill some two miles distant gave him renewed strength to struggle in that direction, and eventually reach the pack.

"Lost her," said the master, despondingly.

"Glory be," said he of the pockets, sinking on the ground almost on the top of the lost one, who made off like a giant refreshed with wine, master and pack once more in close attendance!

By a superhuman effort the visitor, determined never again to be lost in that country, kept within hearing of the pack, until a welcome cessation of the music announced that something had happened.

"Just five o'clock," said the master; "so shall we go and find *just one more hare?* I should like you to see them kill. Or would you rather go home?"

"Home," said the visitor.

"All right," said the master; "I know a short-cut from here, over the downs, that will bring us right home in less than eight

miles. And I don't mind their having *an easy day now and again!*"

I do not think any one can wish for a more graphic, vivid, or humorous description of a beagle hunt than that, or one more calculated to gain recruits for the sport, the particular advantages of which are that it can be enjoyed at a very small expense, within a very small area, and without damage to the property of those who present the pitchfork to the mounted hunter. And for the capacity of the pocket beagle, as compared with the hare-hunting beagle, this is what Mr. Lord writes in the same publication :—

"What sport?" you probably exclaim. I answer, "Anything you please, which carries scent." Rabbit is the legitimate quarry of the pocket beagle. The hound is so small and active that he can fly through the rabbit meshes; he is so close to the ground, and his scent is so delicate, that he never fails to drive his game, even on a moderate scent. His heart is so fully in his work that, whether torn or bruised, nothing can choke him off; through brambles, thickets, gorse, water, bunny is forced along. The endurance of these little hounds is remarkable, considering their diminutive size. For several seasons I have driven into a park the deer which have escaped, and frequently had good runs. I have run fox and hare with them, but, of course, never got near a kill. I have run drags with them to the delight of a good field. I have shot rabbits over them, and run a variety of persons and animals with them. But generally I use mine for rabbit-hunting, the earths being stopped, or with bagged, selected rabbits, giving the quarry ten minutes' law in an open country, according to the scent. Small as these little hounds are, it is impossible for an ordinary runner to keep up with them on even terms with a hot scent; but on a catchy or coldish scent there is no more interesting study for a genuine sportsman than to watch the work of a cry of pocket beagles. You smile incredulously? Try it. When they have once settled down very little lifting is required, as pace is not your object. Leave them alone to work out the problem: your object is sport rather than blood. Only keep your field well back at a check, not to interfere with or run over them, or press them on, and you will gain an interesting object-lesson—equal I think, to fox-hunting.

These quotations have carried me rather beyond my allotted space, but I think they have prepared an interest in the breed that will appreciate the more technical details following, and enable a better consideration of the individual opinions I have collected. And I cannot do better than begin with the valued expert views of

Mr. J. A. TATHAM.—When any one desires to ascertain what is the correct type of this or that breed of dog, he generally visits a dog show. What he sees there ought to give him some definite idea of the breed, and it very often does. But in regard to the beagle I am sorry to say it often does not. There is no breed of dog recognised as distinct in which type varies so much. Such a difference is there between the head of a 16-inch beagle, which is the limit height, and the head of a 10-inch beagle, that if one is right the other must be wrong!

At our chief shows the competition is cut up into classes restricted by height, beagles over 12 and not exceeding 16 inches having a class to themselves; then those over 10 and not exceeding 12, and finally those not exceeding 10 inches. Whatever divisions are made in height, it follows from the Beagle Club's standard and description that all beagles from 16 inches downwards should be of the same type, the standard applying equally to the 16, the 12, and the 10-inch hounds.

The average beagles of the larger size do not fit the standards, whilst the smaller size—the pocket—misses it; but the medium size hits it, and it is in these 12-inch beagles that the old true type of beagle is most manifest. When one notes the pronounced difference between the larger and the lesser beagle, the question forces itself whether to accept the head of the one or the head of the other. No man who hunts hares will pay any attention to the pocket beagle, nor does he care whether its type does or does not represent the true beagle more correctly than the larger size of hound—he simply won't have it!

It would have been possible some time ago—in fact it still is—to have preserved the old type of hounds of the larger size as easily as it has been preserved in those of medium size, but masters of 14-, 15-, and 16-inch packs, preferring cleaner made hounds, made no such attempt; and as there are a far greater number of beagles between 14 and 16 inches than there are between 10 and 13 inches, it may be said, I think, without con-

tradiction, that the type as seen in the larger size is more prominent than the type of the smaller, and therefore it may be accepted as the one most preferred, be it, or be it not, the true original type.

This preferred type is outside the Beagle Club's standard so far as *dewlap*, *mild expression*, and *slightly-sloping shoulders* go. That the Club was strongly opposed to the beagle being different from the foxhound *only* in size is proved by those points quoted from its standard; and if one takes the pick of all the beagle packs and puts them together, it will be found that the dewlap is absent, the expression not mild, and the shoulders, instead of being slightly sloping, are placed well back. Put shortly, it is true that lovers of the true, old-fashioned beagle regret the loss—in the larger beagle—of those points which distinguished it from the foxhound and harrier; but no such regret is felt by those who desire better necks, cleaner throats, more sloping shoulders, short backs, and straight legs. And the question of what the beagle is or is not depends on whether the majority of masters intend to breed on the lines of the foxhound, or adhere to the standard set forth by the Beagle Club, of which many of them are members.

The position of the beagle at the present time is most gratifying, as far as the increased interest in them goes; but it is far from pleasing to admit that with a standard which the big and little beagles are supposed to be bred to, there is a greater difference between the 16-inch and the 10-inch beagle than between the 16-inch beagle and the foxhound.

Mr. F. B. LORD.—My conception of an "ideal" beagle is a hound which excels in work, and is, at the same time, a "nice-looking" beagle. My ideal must have a greedy appetite for work, a reliable nose, indefatigable perseverance, great cleverness in his diagnosis of a dry line or cross-scent, and all the twistings and turnings of his quarry, which can only be acquired by the education of practice; sufficient stamina to live out any work he is called upon to undertake, absence of riot, with fair, but not necessarily excessive speed. If he is such, and perhaps a bit more, I can put up with many minor defects in form and colouring. But to be ideal he must have form as well as work, characteristic type, with beautiful markings. For myself, I should never draft a beagle for his colour, but the ideal must have good sound hound-markings, such as dense black, snow white, and bright tan, or, perhaps, blue-mottled.

As the best judge of form may award the premier honours to

the worst field-worker, I cannot value the honours obtained at shows, except as to pure show form. Shows are certainly interesting and instructive as to form, and bring men of like sporting interests together, and we learn much in seeing the inferiority of our own exhibits when compared with those of superior build. These exhibitions certainly go to improve the appearance of the hounds, and it is unquestionable that the Beagle Club has done a very great work, chiefly through its indefatigable Honorary Secretary, in moulding the highest conception of form that beagle men can want. And we see—and every one must acknowledge—that from year to year the breed has exhibited improved and more careful breeding.

And now with regard to form. I begin with head. Open the mouth: let me see a perfect set of teeth—white, no irregularities, no corrosion, no tint of canker. This is frequently neglected by judges, but it is important. I don't like a flat, dish-faced hound; there ought to be an indication of stop; not a long face, like in the foxhound, and certainly not a snub face, and, above all, not a snipe muzzle with pig jaws. Ears should be set a trifle below the apex of the skull, not excessively long, but flexible and a bit folded, without being too delicate for thorny work. The skull should be, in comparison, a bit broader than that of the foxhound. A dog-hound is rather more massive in build than a bitch, which has a more ladylike appearance. The eyes must be neither too prominent nor too small. A little wrinkle down the face of heavily built hounds is very attractive. A true beagle must be a bit throaty, the "voice-bag" must be plainly developed. A clean throat, which Americans like, is not according to my views of the true beagle type. I love a real, good musical note, and detest anything like a squall or screech. The beagle's body is rather longer and lower to the ground in proportion than a foxhound's, but it must not be anything like a basset's. I expect to see well-ribbed up flanks, with a chest not too narrow, and with perfectly straight legs placed well under the body, so that the elbows are not set out. Hindquarters with a good muscular loin, and well-developed thighs, full of muscle, and with stifles well let down. Well made feet not altogether round, but substantially padded; stern set at right angles to the back, and carried gaily, but not curved over the back.

A beagle in the show ring with strange surroundings, apart from his pack companions, amongst whom he is as bold as a lion, frequently crouches to the ground, especially in the smaller specimens, and consequently exhibits a long back; but when free he

pulls himself together, his head and stern are raised, and all his muscles are tightened up and come into view, and only then you see something of his true form and symmetry. Then, too, you see his movement and activity, on which a good deal depends in forming a judgment. One word more on bone: a hound which is disproportionate in bone is not of good form. Bone must be in proportion to the structure of the body. A dog-hound generally carries more bone than a bitch, but the bitch is in no way inferior in work. A hare beagle, where pace is of considerable consideration, is rather further from the ground than the rabbit beagle, where scent alone is the object; and they must be judged on rather a different basis. Above all, observe a proper proportion in build and form, because the beagle, unlike other hounds, has different quarries, and consequently differs in height and build according to the quarry for which he is bred.

Passing from the descriptive to the critical, here are some of the opinions which have reached me on the type of the breed as it exists to-day :—

MRS. CHARLES CHAPMAN.—There is no fixed type, for all iudges seem to differ as to what is the true beagle type.

MR. W. R. TEMPLE.—There are too many types. I should like to see the dewlap abolished. I consider that the Beagle Club does much harm to the breed by encouraging the useless little hounds of 10 to 12 inches. Practically all hounds of that size have bad legs and feet, long bodies, snipey faces, and are usually shown very fat. The Beagle Club's idea of a beagle is the same sort of animal that existed before the flood! Where should we be if we stuck to the old type of foxhound? Masters of beagles go in for a foxhound type of the little hound, and naturally do not care to show their hounds under the all-round professional dog-show judge. The 14- to 16-inch beagle is built much on the lines of a foxhound. They should have good neck and shoulders, plenty of bone, perfectly straight legs, good feet (standing well up on their toes), stern set on top of back, and well carried, hocks well let down, muscular thighs, etc. These are the only sort of beagles kept by those who hunt beagles in packs. To an ordinary sportsman, when you speak of beagles, these are the animals to which he supposes you refer. The rabbit beagle is a little, long-bodied, crooked-legged, splay-footed, pug-eyed animal kept by gamekeepers to drive rabbits to the guns, and till lately was never taken seriously. They would

never have a chance of winning a prize if shown against a true beagle.

MRS. HALL WALKER.—I do not admire the beagles that are exhibited at shows, Peterborough excepted. In most cases they have never even been entered. When I first started keeping beagles, I began having them of 10 inches to hunt rabbits, but soon found this unsatisfactory. So I got rid of these and got larger ones to hunt hares with, and they give excellent sport.

MR. WILLIAM HAMPTON.—I think there is too much in-breeding going on in beagles. In judging they should be judged by their working points. My old bitch *Remedy* will find, hunt, and drive a rabbit to my gun if it runs three miles; if it keeps above ground it is mine. I have also *Mystery*, one of the cleverest retrievers I know; brings her birds alive. During the late stormy weather I was out one morning at five, and came across a young sparrow fluttering in a pond. *Mystery* went in, brought it to the bank, laid it down, and dared *Manager*, a puppy, to touch it. I got off my mare, picked up the sparrow, put it on Mr. Robert Leadbetter's fence, and away it went, none the worse. This shows the softness of a beagle's mouth.

MR. F. B. LORD.—Type was most lamentably neglected till the Beagle Club took beagles in hand a few years ago; but since then, year by year, type has been bred for as well as working powers, and beagle lovers must certainly be satisfied by the results. A few years ago the best beagles exhibited were very poor, ordinary specimens, whilst now it is quite the exception to see a bad beagle on the bench. I was once exceedingly doubtful as to the good of dog shows, but I now think they promote type and quality, as well as work. There is no reason why we should not have both quality and work in the same hound. The meeting of beagle masters at beagle shows, if the show is carefully arranged and judged, promotes good breeding, and, from a consensus of opinion, a right direction is taken. It is a difficulty to make most of us, no matter how old and experienced, understand that in beagles we have all much to learn. I consider the points and their values, as drawn up by the Beagle Club, to be exactly what is wanted in a really good specimen. Good judges may differ in their appreciation of these points. And again a good hound at a show often disgraces himself, and a second-rate one shows himself to advantage; and the opinion of the same judge may reverse them under other circumstances.

Mr. Edward M. Kelsey (writing about the rough variety) :—

> The rough or wire-coated beagle differs from the smooth only in the coat, which should be longer and of a wiry nature; they gain a great advantage over the smooth when on rabbit, owing to this, as they will face the roughest gorse or undergrowth without hurting themselves; when on the scent they give tongue with a very rich deep tone—more so than I have heard with the smooth. The roughs have a very hardy constitution.

The recommendations of the breed are summed up in the sport they can show, in which every one, from a schoolboy or schoolgirl to a retired colonel or middle-aged lady, can participate. The pocket beagles are very popular with ladies, many of whom are enthusiasts in this form of the chase, hunting their hounds themselves. Moreover these little ones, though capital sporting dogs, are also good house ones, if rather timid and shy when they are isolated, being essentially pack-dogs. "They are absolutely devoted to their master or mistress," writes one fancier, "and always willing and ready to do anything according to their acquirements."

The *Beagle Club* is a most flourishing institution of nearly fifty members, under the Honorary Secretaryship of Mr. W. R. Crofton, with the Marquis of Linlithgow as president. The annual subscription is a guinea. It differs from kindred institutions in that its business is conducted entirely by correspondence, so that people who live in distant parts of the country, and would be unable to attend meetings, are still able to have an equal voice in its affairs with those who live near its headquarters. The Club holds an annual show of its own, and affords generous support to the leading exhibitions, and its financial position is sound. Nor must I omit to mention the very interesting Annual

Report it issues, which contains much sporting matter apart from the actual report of the previous year's proceedings, a sample of which I have given in the preceding pages. The following are the points laid down by the Club:—

STANDARD OF POINTS OF THE BEAGLE

HEAD.—Of fair length, powerful without being coarse; skull domed, moderately wide, with an indication of peak; stop well defined; muzzle not snipey; lips well flewed.

NOSE.—Black, broad, and nostrils well expanded.

EYES.—Brown, dark hazel or hazel; not deep set or bulgy, and with a mild expression.

EARS.—Long, set on low, fine in texture, and hanging in a graceful fold close to the cheek.

NECK.—Moderately long, slightly arched, and throat showing some dewlap.

SHOULDERS.—Clean and slightly sloping.

BODY.—Short between the couplings, well let down in the chest; ribs fairly well sprung, well ribbed up, with powerful and not tucked-up loins.

HINDQUARTERS.—Very muscular about the thighs; stifles and hocks well bent; hocks well let down.

FORE LEGS.—Quite straight and well under the dog, of good substance and round in bone.

FEET.—Well knuckled up and strongly padded.

STERN.—Of moderate length, set on high and carried gaily, but not curled over the back.

COLOUR.—Any recognised hound colour.

COAT.—In the smooth variety, smooth, very dense, and not too fine or short; in the rough variety very dense and wiry.

HEIGHT.—Not exceeding 16 inches.

GENERAL APPEARANCE.—A compactly built hound, without coarseness, conveying the impression of great stamina and activity.

POCKET BEAGLES.—Must not exceed 10 inches in height, although ordinary beagles in miniature; no point, however good in itself, should be encouraged if it tends to a coarse appearance in such minute specimens of the breed. They should be compact and symmetrical throughout, of true beagle type, and show great quality and breeding.

CLASSIFICATION.—It is recommended that beagles should be divided at shows into rough and smooth, with classes for "not exceeding 16 inches and over 12 inches," "not exceeding 12 inches and over 10 inches, and "not exceeding 10 inches."

DISQUALIFYING POINTS.—Any kind of mutilation, but it is permitted to remove the dew claws.

POINT VALUES—

(The following table is published as a guide for novices, but the exact

value to be attached to some parts must necessarily depend to a certain extent upon locality, and the work for which the beagle is to be used.)

| | |
|---|---|
| Skull | 6 |
| Ears | 10 |
| Eyes | 3 |
| Expression | 5 |
| Muzzle, jaw, and lip | 10 |
| Coat | 5 |
| Legs and feet | 15 |
| Neck and shoulders | 10 |
| Chest | 5 |
| Back, loin, and ribs | 15 |
| Hindquarters | 10 |
| Stern | 6 |
| Total | 100 |

## My illustrations represent—

*Archie*, bred by and the property of Mr. H. Howard-Vyse, a tan and black and white hound by Chawston Guardsman *ex* Madcap. *Archie*, who was born in 1902, stands 14½ inches high, and is described by his owner as "a *very* excellent and typical specimen of the true hare beagle, and full of old beagle blood. He won the champion cup at Peterborough in 1903, and two firsts and a cup at Richmond."

*Kerswell Lollipop*, who represents the rabbit or pocket beagle, was bred and is owned by Mr. F. B. Lord, the sire being Ravager and the dam Melodia. The little hound was born in July 1898, is a tricolour, and stands 10 inches at shoulder. It is smart in appearance, having perfect legs, a short back, and low-set ears. His hunting qualities are excellent, and he comes of a good line of working ancestors. It may be mentioned that on an occasion of hunting a deer that had escaped from a park, *Lollipop* and his half-brother Warrior, and their dam Melodia, when separated from the pack, got on a good line and ran their deer for six miles over very rough and difficult ground, and finally lodged it back in the park. Time—one hour and twenty-four minutes. The field and the keepers who assisted at the run were much impressed with the pluck, endurance, and keenness of these diminutive hounds. *Lollipop* won two firsts at the Richmond Hound Show of 1903.

## THE BLOODHOUND

A HALO of romance, not untinged with horror, hangs over the bloodhound. The noble creature is the victim of a vicarious ill reputation, which quite unauthoritatively associates him with the chase, mutilation, and slaughter of runaway slaves and fugitive unfortunates. Being associated with blood in his name is doubtless the cause of his being associated with blood in his nature. Ask a hundred people whether, under necessity to choose, they would rather be attacked by a bloodhound or a Thibetan sheep-dog, and I fancy ninety-nine would plump for the latter; yet the sheep-dog will butcher you, whilst the bloodhound will seldom more than bay you.

The origin of the bloodhound or sleuth-hound has been traced to several breeds, the principal ones being the St. Hubert, the Talbot, and the Old Southern hound. The Talbot was introduced into England by William the Conqueror, and some writers consider it a descendant of the St. Hubert hound—a breed that existed in the forest of Ardenne, where St. Hubert established himself, and introduced his hounds from the south of Gaul in the sixth century. The Old Southern hound is one of the most ancient of British breeds of dogs, and our modern harriers claim descent from it. It differed from the St. Hubert hounds, which

*A. H. Salmon, photo.*

BLOODHOUND.

*Ch.* CHATLEY BLAZER. PLATE V.

were commonly all black, though occasionally all white, in being a spotted variety; and it seems more probable that the Southern hound was descended from the bloodhound than *vice versa.* Mr. Edwin Brough, the leading authority on the bloodhound, is of opinion that "the St. Hubert, Talbot, and bloodhound were all closely allied." From which divergent opinions one thing stands out pretty clear—namely, that the bloodhound can boast a greater antiquity than all save a few breeds, and that the nobleman who "points with pride to his favourite hounds, and says 'This same strain has been with our family since the Conquest'" (as one writer on the subject pictures), is probably justified in dating its ancestry back to that landmark in our island's history.

You may trace or guess at references to the bloodhound through a succession of centuries. Henry III., about 1250, granted a dispensation to a certain Robert de Chenney, who was in charge of some hounds belonging to the King's son, "to hunt with them in the King's forests and warrens, and to take the King's game, in order to train the said dogs to be accustomed to blood." Dr. Caius, three centuries later, describes them as "having lippes of a large size and ears no small length . . . able to pursue the deede dooers through long lanes, crooked reaches, and weary wayes, without wandering away out of the limits of the land whereon these desperate purloyners prepared their speedy passage . . . picking them out from an infinite multitude and an innumerable company, creep they never so far in the thickest thronge."

It is highly probable that in its earliest development the bloodhound was purely a sporting dog; later on its wonderful powers of scent caused it to be employed in war and in the pursuit of man. Certain it is

that Henry VIII. used it in the wars with France and Elizabeth in the wars in Ireland. And we have it on the best authority that it has been employed in chiveying kings and would-be kings. The story of King Alfred and the burnt cakes is not more familiar than that of Wallace, who, after the affair of Black Erneside, being chased by the enemy, who employed these hounds, killed one of his followers to entertain and delay the beasts whilst he effected his own escape. Robert Bruce, too, on one occasion cleverly evaded pursuit and capture by bloodhounds by wading through the bed of a stream. And the unfortunate Duke of Monmouth was literally run to earth in a ditch by these hounds after the disastrous battle of Sedgemoor. No breed of dogs could have its name associated with such moving and royal adventures without gaining a glorified reputation, even though it be a grim one. In this respect history has helped to elevate the bloodhound to a very bizarre position in our annals. The frequent modern suggestions to employ bloodhounds for police and detective duties are merely illustrations of history repeating itself. Early in the seventeenth century they were used, under the designation of "slough dogs," on the borders between England and Scotland to track and discover the border robbers.

Although there is much that is horrible, there is nothing actually revolting in these uses to which the hound was put. To be harrowed one must turn to the New World, and the reputed deeds of the Spaniards across the Atlantic. Not that the "Cuban bloodhound," as it is called, is anything but distantly allied to our English species. Mr. Rawdon Lee states it was not a bloodhound at all, but a half-bred foxhound. Whatever its precise caste, it was used for man-hunting, and has succeeded in giving the breed of bloodhounds

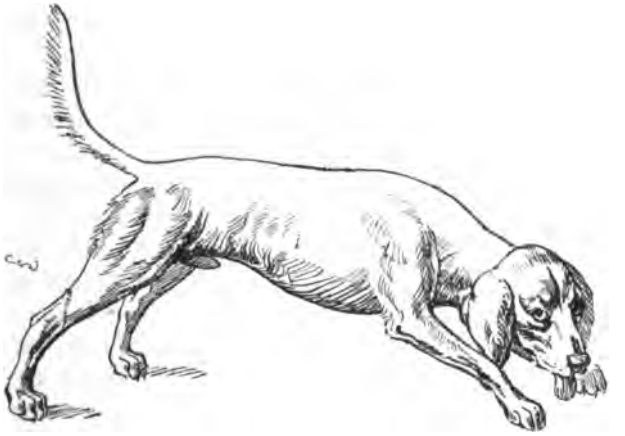
a very bad name. The modern generation dates this libel back to the middle of the nineteenth century, and that period of slavery in the Southern States of America; but long before that the Spaniards used their bloodhounds,—for so I must continue to call them,—who had all the instincts of the breed, in their wars in Central and South America, and we followed their example on one memorable occasion.

I do not think the facts are generally known, and they are interesting. In 1795 certain free negroes in the island of Jamaica, known as Maroons, revolted; they were but a handful of men,—barely six hundred,—and the force we employed against them amounted to 5000 troops, and yet could not come at them by reason of their inaccessible hiding-places in the mountains and woody interior of the island. "Whereupon the Government of Jamaica had recourse to the mode adopted by the Spaniards in similar cases, and obtained a hundred bloodhounds from the island of Cuba, and twenty men expert in training and conducting them. With this supply the military penetrated to their hiding-places, compelled the Maroons to surrender, and they were transported to the British provinces of North America." My quotation is from the *Annual Register*, which goes on to say that an erroneous conviction arose that the bloodhounds had been employed not only to track out the Maroons, but to tear and mangle them, and the incident created a pretty general outcry. General Macleod brought the matter before Parliament, made a long speech about "massacring the Maroons without mercy," and stated that "it was customary amongst the Spaniards in Cuba to feed their bloodhounds on human flesh in order to render them ferocious!" There were two long debates on the subject in the House of Commons, and in the end the

Ministry of the day disassociated themselves from the acts of the Jamaica authorities, to whom they sent orders not to repeat the experiment. I have little doubt that the evil and libellous reputation that has clung about our British bloodhounds dates from that period, when the kingdom was much exercised about the Jamaica affair.

As a matter of fact the bloodhound, so far from being a savage dog, is a singularly even-tempered one, with a natural instinct for hunting man rather than beast,—but without a sinister purpose unless it is encouraged to sinister action. It will never hurt a man whom it overtakes unless it is itself attacked, though it will probably "bay" him, which may be defined as bringing him to a standstill in the chase. Whilst most dogs will track the footsteps of their master, or of some one familiar to them, the bloodhound is the only dog who will follow those of an entire stranger. The development of this peculiar natural instinct by training leads to great perfection, but there are limitations, and very great limitations. One of the commonest errors is to suppose that any bloodhound can track a man over pavements trodden by many pedestrians: such a task is impossible, except in the case of an exceptionally clever and trained hound. On the other hand, the bloodhound can unerringly follow a trail laid in the country, provided the scent is fresh. Cases have been known where the hound successfully followed a trail more than twelve hours old, but, in modern bloodhound trials, one to one and a half hours is the time usually allowed between starting the hunted man and slipping the hounds. The hunt is after the "clean boot,"—that is to say, neither blood nor any other foreign substance is rubbed on the sole of the fugitive's boot. How acute and wonderful

is the delicacy of the hound's scenting powers may be gathered from the statement, made by Mr. Brough, that it has to follow the natural scent of the man laid through his boots. That, with such a shield between him and mother earth, a man should lay a scent at all seems incredible ; but on a good scenting day, and good scent-carrying ground, hounds have been known to run hard fifty yards or more to the leeward of the line taken. When hunted singly a hound often runs mute, but in



BLOODHOUND (1803). *After Reinagle.*

a pack they give tongue, and the bay of a bloodhound is by common consent the most glorious canine music there is. Hounds have been known to be so enchanted with their own efforts as to sit down every now and then and pour forth solos.

It is probable that the modern bloodhound is a much faster animal than those of olden days. With the establishment of dog shows it came into the hands of the enthusiast, and has not only been considerably improved by breeding, as may be gathered from a

comparison between the illustrations of modern dogs with Reinagle's bloodhound, an outline sketch of which is given, but experts believe that each succeeding generation of trained hounds will become more proficient than the last one. Mr. Edwin Brough has expressed an opinion that the breed would probably have become extinct but for dog shows, as before their day it was very scarce, and only kept up by a few old families from sentiment, and a disinclination to part from old tradition. It still remains a rare breed, but it is fortunate in having a rare good body of enthusiasts interested in it. The Kennel Club Show of 1903 saw a most remarkable bench of the hounds brought together, there being forty specimens collected, as against eleven in 1902, and seventeen in 1901. Mrs. Oliphant, from her famous Chatley kennel, showed a pack of eleven, Mr. H. C. Hodson a pack of ten, the championship going to the former's Ch. *Chatley Blazer.* In May of the same year, at the inaugural meet of the Bloodhound Hunt Club, at which thirty hounds were entered, *Chatley Blazer*, hunted by Mrs. Oliphant, chased his man four miles in twenty minutes, whilst *Chatley Worker* accomplished nearly five miles in twenty-two minutes, including two checks. The trials took place on Salisbury Plain, the hounds in most cases hunting their men along high-roads, tracks, and footpaths, foiled by the troops (who were out at manœuvres) as well as by sheep and spectators, and most of the dogs found their men under the hour, and two of them in three-quarters of an hour. Over eighty miles of trails were hunted in the three days.

As I am writing these lines there is a correspondence taking place in the press on the practicability of employing bloodhounds to track down dock thieves at night, after the gates are closed, and Captain Coke, the head

of the Milwall Dock Police, has applied to the Association of Bloodhound Breeders for a young hound. In which connection Mr. Croxton-Smith has made the following observations, which happen to be very *à propos* to my subject:—

"If only a few constables are on duty, and the hound is put on the proper line, he should be able to carry it and find his man. I think there is a very reasonable chance of a bloodhound being able to track a man through the docks. My own hounds have hunted over waste ground near London, over which men have been walking, and have carried the line quite satisfactorily, although it has been foiled in a number of places. They have even carried to within fifty yards of a public road before going on to another piece of ground. I should say that a young hound that has had about seven to eight months' training would considerably astonish the dock thieves. You can train a bloodhound to be a good guard as well as to hunt, and although he is not by nature a ferocious animal, he has the same instincts for guarding his master as any dog or hound possesses. The great value of a bloodhound for this work is that he hunts a stranger even better than some one whom he knows. In an ordinary case the bloodhound does not hurt the man whom he has hunted, but it would be quite an easy matter to train a bloodhound to prevent his prey from escaping. The success of a bloodhound's work at the docks would depend a good deal upon scenting conditions, and that is a factor which we don't properly understand at present."

Mr. Brough has published a long description of his method of training bloodhounds to hunt. He advocates beginning when they are very young—say three or four months old, and never allowing them to hunt anything

but the clean boot. At first it is best to let them run some one they know, but after that it does not matter how often the runner is changed. The puppies should be caressed and much made of, and allowed to see the man depart in the first instance, but the latter should get out of their sight as quickly as possible, and then run two hundred yards, up-wind, on grass land, and hide himself. The puppies are then set on his trail, encouraged, and rewarded according to their endeavours and merits. Everything should be made as easy as possible at first, the difficulties being increased little by little, as they take to the task. This can be done by having the line crossed by others, by carrying it on to a high-road, and lengthening the distance. The runner should carry a bundle of sticks with him, with a piece of white paper stuck in a cleft at one end, and plant one of these wherever he takes a turn, so as to afford a guide of the course to the trainer. The whelps will soon take to the work, learn to cast for themselves or try back if they overrun the line, and should never receive any assistance so long as they continue working on their own account.

Turning now to the notes of my contributors, I cannot do better than begin with a description by Mrs. Charles Chapman of

AN IDEAL BLOODHOUND. — This grand hound of noble lineage, whose ancestors saw the oldest families that England can boast of rise from obscurity, still strikes terror in the rustic's breast, and sends his women and children hastening to the shelter of their cottages. Useless it is to tell them of his courteous disposition, kindly manners, or lofty indifference to any one who is not of his own household. The fiction of ages enshrouds him with stories of blood-curdling propensities.

Grand in repose is he, with his wrinkled forehead and deep-set eye, his expression troubled and careworn, his full, deep muzzle and long pendant ears, impressing the notion of his

dignified birth, and lending him a sentiment which has inspired authors and painters, old and new.

And grander still as we see him stooping, with muzzle pressed to earth, and ears trailing in the dew, billows of loose skin rolling over his face, body and legs speaking of strength and power, and his long, tapering stern lashing to and fro among the heather and the fern; while from his deep, full throat he gives a short, sharp note, which deepens into a full, resounding bay, like the note of an organ, as he hits off the line of his quarry, and breaks into a gallop.

My ideal bloodhound stands at least 27 inches at the shoulder. Rather heavy in build, he denotes great power, with more endurance than speed. His wide, deep chest, and well-rounded body are carried on the straightest of legs—great with bone and muscle, with feet well knuckled up, and toes close together. The loins wide and powerful, the hocks well bent, stern long and tapering, and neck rather short and muscular. The head, the great characteristic of the breed, is lofty and dome-shaped; the forehead covered with heavy folds of skin; the ears, set on low, are long and full; the eyes deep set, with the haw very evident and V-shaped; the muzzle large, full, and deep, with heavy flews, and, below the throat, two heavy folds of skin forming the dewlap. I would emphasise the importance of avoiding a wedge-shaped head; the sides of the head, as well as those of the muzzle, should be nearly parallel.

My ideal colour is black, with rich, red tan neck and loins, and a bright tan head and legs. In character the bloodhound is dignified and undemonstrative, fond of having his own way, and resentful of chastisement.

The following are the opinions of experts on the type of the breed as it exists to-day:—

MR. S. H. MANGIN.—In my opinion the breed requires more bone, size, and general indication of power. In fact, I consider they should be in all respects thorough working hounds, of heavy type with fancy points well developed. They should be bred for endurance rather than speed.

MRS. OLIPHANT.—I think that breeders, as a rule, do not give sufficient consideration to the body properties of a hound. In-breeding and insufficient work has led to serious deterioration in the physical powers and constitution of the breed. Some years ago I came to the conclusion that this accounted for their lack of perseverance and timidity, which I found a great drawback. I

also found it necessary to breed faster hounds, as, for practical purposes, they must be able to gain on their man. The longer hounds take to hunt the line, the more risk there is of the scent failing owing to atmospheric changes, and of the line becoming more foiled, which is the more likely to end in failure to find the man. The length of start given the hunted man depends upon atmospheric conditions. A good trained hound, bred from hunting stock, will often hunt a line eight to twelve hours cold. Last September *Chatley Rocket* hunted a man (who started at 10 P.M.) right into his cottage at 7 A.M. the next morning. Mr. Oliphant and myself are both certain that the bloodhound hunts a body scent as well as a foot-trail. To show the speed these hounds are capable of I may mention that at some trials in which my hounds were engaged they accomplished twelve miles in an hour and six minutes. On this occasion the pack carried the scent down the main street, on the pavement, of the town of Andover, and ran into their quarry in the livery yard of the Star and Garter Hotel at 7 o'clock in the morning, and trotted home five miles, quite fresh and keen after their walk.

MR. A. CROXTON-SMITH.—The type of the breed as exemplified in the leading hounds is, I consider, correct; but we see a good many about that are too light in bone, undersized, flat-ribbed, and lacking many of the qualities which are so characteristic of this noble breed. The show bloodhound should be a well-balanced hound all through, and it is quite erroneous to think (as has been said) that the chief breeders are sacrificing legs and feet for head. We believe—a belief based on scientific dicta — that long, narrow heads, with great depth through, indicate much better scenting properties than heads broad at the brow. Most of the best hunting hounds we have come from Mr. Brough's kennels, and his strain, as every one knows, has produced an abnormal number of winners. I am convinced that if it had not been for dog shows the breed of bloodhounds would practically have become extinct, but I do not believe in over-showing them.

MRS. CHARLES CHAPMAN.—I am not satisfied with modern type. I consider too much attention has been paid to head, and the various good qualities which go to make a good working hound have been sacrificed to that. Also there has been too much in-breeding, and, if possible, fresh blood should be introduced. The trials promoted by the Bloodhound Hunt Club seem to have given fresh life to the breed, which, at one time, was in the hands of very few persons. Continual inquiries are being made for adult hounds and puppies, and it is much to be hoped

that the authorities will, eventually, see their way to employing these hounds at convict prisons to track escaped prisoners, instead of shooting at them, as the warders are now often compelled to do.

MR. HENRY EAST.—I am satisfied with the type of the few champion hounds, but not at all with the general run of bloodhounds, for, as a rule, they require greater stamina, better feet and legs, and much more typical heads, especially peak, eyes, and flews. I prefer the standard of points as given by Stonehenge to those laid down in later books. Stonehenge gives more value to working qualities than to appearance, which is right.

MR. F. E. SCHOFIELD.—I am fairly well satisfied with type. Still I think there is decidedly room for improvement in quality of heads. Bodies, legs, and feet have decidedly improved in recent years, but heads have deteriorated. The chief defect of the breed is want of constitution and stamina. That will, in my opinion, be best remedied in course of time by importing dogs of pure blood from America and other countries, whither we have exported them. To resort to out-crossing, as has been seriously proposed, would be disastrous.

MR. C. J. B. MONYPENNY.—I think a little more attention might be paid to legs and feet. One of the most important points about any hound is its ability to gallop as well as scent. If a hound has crooked legs I do not see how he can gallop really fast, any more than a man with crooked legs can run, and in the course of my experience on the path I never saw a man with crooked legs who could run decently. Also a little less in-breeding might be cultivated; a suitable out-cross would do a lot of good. It is a pity the breed is such an expensive one to keep, otherwise it might become much more popular, but high stud fees give small breeders no chance.

The recommendations of the breed, with universal accord, quote its nobility of character as a leading virtue. Omitting repetition of this trait, the eulogiums run: "In appearance the grandest breed of dogs; much interest is to be obtained from the development of their wonderful instinct of tracking, although on this account they are not, perhaps, such good companions as some other breeds."—"I admire the bloodhound because of the sport he is capable of giving in hunting

the clean boot. A man of moderate means, possessed of a couple of bloodhounds, may get a vast amount of enjoyment out of them at very little cost beyond their keep."—"I love these hounds because of the extraordinary intelligence so many of them display in working out the trail of their quarry—man. I find them faithful companions and good guards, but they require to be kept under control, as they are very disobedient."—"My greatest pleasure in keeping bloodhounds is to hunt them myself, and watch them work. Their power of discrimination in owning the line of a hunted man, let the trail be hours old, or ever so badly foiled, is something marvellous. This, added to their loving disposition, great beauty, and deep-toned musical voice, places them far away in front of any other breed of hunting hound."—"I admire the unequalled grandeur of the breed, and think their working qualities should be utilised in the service of the country."—"Cleanly in the house, and very magnanimous to smaller dogs, though it can hold its own when roused. It rarely goes savage or snappy, which cannot be said of all big breeds. Its faithfulness and companionability is exemplary."

The *Association of Bloodhound Breeders*, founded in 1897, devotes its attentions to the cult of the bloodhound. The annual subscription to this institution is a guinea, and members have to contribute 10 per cent of all prize monies won by them during each year at shows and trials held under Kennel Club rules. The points and characteristics of the bloodhound, or sleuthhound, were drawn up by Mr. Edwin Brough and Dr. Sidney Turner, and form the standard which guides this Association, and are reproduced here.

The *Bloodhound Hunt Club* is an institution started in 1903 by some of the leading fanciers, and it bears on its committee list such well-known names as Mrs.

Oliphant, Mrs. Chapman, Mr. Henry East, Mr. Harold Stocker, and Mr. C. J. B. Monypenny. It is under the Presidentship of the Earl of Cardigan, and its objects are to encourage the breeding of typical, well-balanced hounds; to develop the hunting instincts of the breed; to hold field trials once every year; and to promote the interests of bloodhounds generally. Mr. G. A. S. Oliphant is the Honorary Secretary, and the subscription is one guinea.

The *Bloodhound Hunt Club* has fixed the following point values for the breed:—

POINT VALUES—

| | |
|---|---|
| Head (including ears, eyes, jaws, peak, haw, flews, and wrinkle) | 35 |
| Neck, shoulders, and chest | 15 |
| Legs and feet | 15 |
| Back, loins, ribs, and girth | 10 |
| Hindquarters | 10 |
| Stern | 5 |
| Colour, coat, and symmetry | 10 |
| Total | 100 |

## STANDARD OF POINTS OF THE BLOODHOUND

GENERAL CHARACTER.—The bloodhound possesses in a most marked degree every point and characteristic of those dogs which hunt together by scent (*Sagaces*). He is very powerful, and stands over more ground than is usual with hounds of other breeds. The skin is thin to touch and extremely loose, this being more especially noticeable about the head and neck, where it hangs in deep folds.

HEIGHT.—The mean average height of adult dogs is 26 inches, and of adult bitches 24 inches. Dogs usually vary from 25 to 27 inches, and bitches from 23 to 25; but in either case the greater height is to be preferred, provided that character and quality are also combined.

WEIGHT.—The mean average weight of adult dogs, in fair condition, is 90 lbs., and of adult bitches 80 lbs. Dogs attain the weight of 110 lbs. and bitches of 100 lbs. The greater weights are to be preferred, provided (as in the case with height) that quality and proportion are combined.

EXPRESSION.—The expression is noble and dignified, and characterised by solemnity, wisdom, and power.

TEMPERAMENT.—In temperament he is extremely affectionate, neither quarrelsome with companions nor with other dogs. His nature is somewhat shy, and equally sensitive to kindness or correction by his master.

HEAD.—The head is narrow in proportion to its length, and long in proportion to the body, tapering but slightly from the temples to the end of the muzzle; thus (when viewed from above and in front) having the appearance of being flattened at the sides, and of being nearly equal in width throughout its entire length. In profile the upper outline of the skull is nearly in the same plane as that of the foreface. The length, from end of nose to stop (midway between the eyes), should be not less than from stop to back of occipital protuberance (peak). The entire length of the head from the posterior part of the occipital protuberance to the end of the muzzle should be 12 inches, or more, in dogs, and 11 inches, or more, in bitches.

SKULL.—The skull is long and narrow, with the occipital peak very pronounced. The brows are not prominent, although, owing to the deep set eyes, they may have that appearance.

FOREFACE.—The foreface is long and deep, and of even width throughout, with square outline when seen in profile.

EYES.—The eyes are deeply sunk in the orbits, the lids assuming a lozenge or diamond shape, in consequence of the lower lids being dragged down and everted by the heavy flews. The eyes correspond with the general tone of colour of the animal, varying from deep hazel to yellow. The hazel eye is, however, to be preferred, although very seldom to be seen in red-and-tan hounds.

EARS.—The ears are thin and soft to the touch, extremely long, set very low, and fall in graceful folds, the lower parts curling inwards and backwards.

WRINKLE.—The head is furnished with an amount of loose skin, which, in nearly every position, appears superabundant, but more particularly so when the head is carried low; the skin then falls into loose, pendulous ridges and folds, especially over the forehead and sides of the face.

NOSTRILS.—The nostrils are large and open.

LIPS, FLEWS, AND DEWLAP.—In front the lips fall squarely, making a right angle with the upper part of the foreface; whilst behind they form deep, hanging flews, and being continued into the pendant folds of loose skin about the neck, constitute the dewlap, which is very pronounced. These characters are found, though in a less degree, in the bitch.

NECK, SHOULDERS, AND CHEST.—The neck is long; the shoulders muscular and well sloped backwards; the ribs are well sprung; and the chest well let down between the fore legs, forming a deep keel.

LEGS AND FEET.—The fore legs are straight, and large in bone, with elbows squarely set; the feet strong and well knuckled up; the thighs and second thighs (gaskins) are very muscular; the hocks well bent and let down, and squarely set.

BACK AND LOIN.—The back and loin are strong, the latter deep and slightly arched.

STERN.—The stern is long and tapering, and set on rather high, with a moderate amount of hair underneath.

GAIT.—The gait is elastic, swinging, and free, the stern being carried high, but not too much curled on the back.

COLOUR.—The colours are black and tan, red and tan, and tawny; the darker colours being sometimes interspersed with lighter or badger-coloured

hair, and sometimes with white. A small amount of white is permissible on chest, feet, and tip of stern.

Ch. *Chatley Blaser*, the hound which illustrates this section, is the property of Mrs. Oliphant, by whom he was bred from Chatley Bellman *ex* Chatley Chantrees in July 1898. He is the largest bloodhound on the show-bench, black and tan in colour, of very sound constitution, with great power, courage, and endurance; great bone, good legs and feet, galloping shoulders and powerful loins. His head properties are exceptionally good and characteristic of the breed. His weight is 116 lbs. *Blaser* holds the Hunt Club's certificate for proficiency in tracking, and has been hunted regularly for four seasons. He crowned a winning show career by carrying off the Kennel Club's championship in 1903.

The two bloodhounds represented in the frontispiece by Mr. C. H. Desmond are Ch. *Hordle Hercules* and *Hordle Zephyr*, the property of Mr. S. Mangin, of Hordle Grange, Hampshire.

BLOODHOUND (1850).

## THE BORZOI

AN aristocrat of aristocrats, the borzoi is at once the noblest looking as well as the newest addition to our bench of sporting hounds. He came with an Imperial halo about him, for amongst the earlier specimens introduced into this country were some from the Czar's kennels.

The Russian wolf-hound, like its Irish prototype, bears a great affinity to the greyhound. Except for its fleecy coat and feathered tail it is practically built on greyhound lines with certain modifications. The chief of these is in the head, which differs in outline and conformation so much that it is practically distinct from any other breed of hound. The veriest tyro having once seen it can recognise a "borzoi head," with its thin, narrow, Roman-nosed contour, and its long fine muzzle. And yet the grip of these hounds is far in excess of what you would give them credit for, and the boast of their masters in their native land is that we have no hound so tenacious of holding on to its quarry. Perhaps it would be more correct to ally the borzoi to the Asiatic greyhound, the hounds of Persia and Afghanistan, generically, notwithstanding that the Russian has kept the delicate and lightly carried ear—perhaps at the expense of a skull too narrow to contain much brains.

Truth to tell, the borzoi has acquired a character of

*A. H. Salmon, photo.*

BORZOI OR RUSSIAN WOLF-HOUND.

*Ch.* VELSK.

PLATE VI.

being less sagacious than other dogs—outside his own sphere of sport, wherein he is peculiarly cunning and adept. I remember hinting this to a lady-fancier, and being crushed with the retort, "Stupid! Not a bit of it! My hound knows its name quite well!" Subsequently, a confession was made that the hound in question was a little rash in the risks it ran of getting run over, and was safer on a lead than when allowed to wander unattached. I trust I am unintentionally unjust to the borzoi, whom I have no desire to libel; but I must confess I retain the conviction that, mentally speaking, it is not a brilliantly witted hound.

But, as I have said, in its own sphere the borzoi is neither lacking in sense nor spirit, and perchance any dog, translated from such outlandish climes as the wilds of Russia to our busy centres of dog-showing, might not be able to adapt itself to its new surroundings and conditions for a generation or two. But the borzoi is being quickly anglicised; it has already ceased to be rare, and has increased marvellously within the last few years. This is reflected in the entries at the Kennel Club Show, which leaped from fifteen in 1900 to sixty-two, fifty-three, and seventy-two in the last three years. An even better proof is afforded by the advertisement columns in the dog-press. Picking up a paper at random I observe a column of borzoi advertisements, with a host of reputed champion-bred stock offered at prices which old fanciers of the breed would doubtless consider scandalous compared with prices current ten years ago, when, in the first blush of its invasion and the sunshine of Royal patronage, to possess a borzoi was to be in the first flight of fashion as regards dogs. Even now, when they are comparatively common, a borzoi at heel invests the owner with a certain distinguished air, which no other breed can do, and I

remember an audible remark overheard at a fashionable sea-side parade in reference to a very meagre specimen that was rather dejectedly following a somewhat seedy-looking individual, "Look! that's one of the Queen's dogs!"

It is probably due to Her Majesty's interest in the breed that it has achieved this high tone. But, on the other hand, its lovers may insist that its fame is all its own, and due to its undoubted grace and beauty, which must ever continue to attract attention and command admiration. And one fact certainly cannot be denied: the borzoi is one of the most striking-looking dogs in our canine repository, and once seen is more easily recognised than any other. And if there is a certain want of quick intelligence in its glance, a certain languor in its action, these are merged and lost in its harmonious outline and its aristocratic mien, which enable it to comport itself with a lofty indifference to surroundings that is in itself a sort of acme of superiority!

The Russian wolf-hound has the advantage of justifying its name in its own country, where it is still employed in the chase of the wolf, being used in much the same way as the Anglo-Indian uses his Rampur hound or greyhound for jackal hunting, and as Irish wolf-hounds were utilised in the good old days. That is to say, it is essentially a coursing and killing hound—not a hunting one. The actual dislodging of the wolves from their cover is done by a commoner and less aristocratic dog. The borzoi is stationed at a suitable point outside to deal with the quarry after it has been hunted out. When the wolf has been driven into the open, sighted, and allowed a suitable start,—a hundred or two hundred yards, according to the ground and the proximity of the next cover,—then, and not till then, are the

borzois slipped, generally in couples, though with noted "fliers" a single hound may be allowed to show itself off. When a couple are employed they approach the wolf from different sides, and on overtaking it await their opportunity until one or the other is able to pin it by the neck just below the ear. The next moment hound and wolf are on the ground, head over heels,—all in a muddle, so to speak. And it is here that the marvellous ability of the hound to hold on comes into play; it never lets go of the wolf; once fixed it is a permanency, until the keeper comes up, who proceeds to slip a muzzle on the wolf, the capture of which alive is the scheme of the chase. If, however, there is any delay the borzoi is quite capable of giving the wolf the *coup-de-grace*, and has frequently done so, for its hold is the hold of death. And it is a striking fact that the hound rarely if ever gets a scratch in the encounter. The best borzois can, and often do, kill a wolf without assistance, though, as I have said, the design is to take the animal alive in order to utilise it to enter young hounds for the sport. An ordinary adjunct of these wolf-courses is a cage on wheels, in which the captured wolves are carried from the field to provide tuition and entertainment in much the same way as our bagged badgers do. The speed with which the borzoi can travel in pursuit of the wolf requires to be seen to be appreciated, and is second only to that of a good English coursing greyhound.

Entered to such savage sport, it is not strange to learn that the borzoi in its native land is accounted a savage animal, and has a reputation of being a terrible fighter in the kennel. The greater its prowess, the more redoubtable its exploits, the more is it prized, and a considerable jealousy exists amongst those who own it, chiefly nobles and persons of rank and wealth, as to

the relative merits of their respective strains, which are as keenly fostered and kept pure as are the occupants of noted sporting and hunting kennels in England. Not only the Czar, but many of the Imperial princes of Russia are fanciers of the borzoi, and their strains are the *crème de la crème.* Mr. Rousseau gave the Queen, when she was Princess of Wales, the famous borzoi *Alex*, which in 1900 divided honours for the Kennel Club championship. The present borzoi, Gatchina, owned by Her Majesty, and the dam of the several winners, came from the Czar's kennels.

Contrary to the popular belief, it is the smooth coated borzoi which is the most common in England. The Duchess of Newcastle is my authority for saying that the rough borzoi (Goustopsovy), even in Russia, is scarcer than the smooth (Psovy); both come in the same litter at times. A *real* rough coat, as seen on the imported hound Kaissack, is almost an unknown thing in England, and those who did not see this specimen cannot realise in the least what it was like. The imported hound Korotai also had a very heavy coat, but it was not so good in mixture, being coarser. Kaissack, however, never grew so good a coat as the one he landed with. The same applies to Sverkay, a dog at present in the Clumber kennels. He landed with a coat the equal of Kaissack's, but now, although good, it is not what it was. The heaviest coated specimens that have been bred in this country have been sired by Kaissack or Korotai or their descendants.

The average height of our show-bench borzoi is about 30 inches, though one gigantic specimen, *Caspian*, measured 34 inches. The colours are white, splashed with lemon, red, fawn, grey, and occasionally darker shades, but black and tan is tabooed. Expatriation has decidedly improved the borzoi's disposition, and it

cannot be regarded as anything but a very docile creature in its English domicile, though it retains its inveterate habit of chasing anything that appears to it to be of the nature of a warrantable quarry, and for this reason requires looking after in its walks abroad.

Before recapitulating the criticisms on the type of the breed as it exists in England to-day, I will reproduce two descriptions of "ideal dogs," so that a mental picture may be represented to my readers' eyes of the exceedingly beautiful subject of this sketch.

THE DUCHESS OF NEWCASTLE'S IDEAL BORZOI.—A perfect borzoi should show substance combined with quality. A long head, rather Roman-nosed; dark, almond-shaped eyes, soft and expressive, set half-way between occiput and point of nose; small ears, set on high, but not prick; a strong neck, which should appear rather short in proportion to the size of the hound; well set-back shoulders, sloping to the points; well sprung ribs (but not round, like a barrel); deep chest, arched loin, stern set low. Very strong muscular quarters, so that, standing behind, they appear the widest part of the hound; hocks well bent and let down; stern long and carried low; long, silky coat, white, and should curl slightly on neck; legs straight and well feathered; the bone and muscle on legs should not appear round, but flat. Feet rather long, with not too much bridge to the toes. Height from 29 to 32½ inches.

MISS HELEN ARNOLD'S IDEAL BORZOI.—My ideal only exists in fancy at present, but some day I hope to exhibit him to the public. He shall be about 33 inches high, with a lovely, long, curly, silky coat, waving up round his ears with quite a Queen Elizabeth ruffle, to set off a head 13½ inches long, with a skull 16½ inches in circumference, flat on top, and oval to the sides. The skin on his head will be so thin and the hair so fine that his veins will be perceptible all down his aristocratic "Wellington" nose. His eyes will be very dark and penetrating; his ears small, thin, and always alert when exercising, but tightly folded back when at ease. When he is fully furnished his chest will measure 3 inches more in circumference than his height; his ribs will not resemble a "weather-board," but he will be "fish-sided." There will be room for his heart to beat and his lungs to expand, so that I may not lose this dream of years (when I

get him!) by sudden failure of the heart's action. He will cover as much ground as his height, and will be wider behind than in front, owing to his sloping, muscular hindquarters. He will have a strong but not too short neck, and a sloping shoulder; his stifle well bent, his hind legs brought up nicely under him, owing to a good roach back, which roach will be a harmonious curve, not a camel's hump of a thing. His long tail and his hind and fore-quarters will all be well feathered with long, silky hair; the bone of his fore legs will be flat, gradually tapering down to his hare feet, which must be this shape in case some day duty calls him to his proper work, which is, in winter, on the snow; and I should like him to meet his Russian brothers on equal terms. His temper will be generous and kind, and he will be equally happy in house or kennel; always willing to share his bed and food with his companions, as all mine now do. I hope his colour will be white, with deep auburn markings, shading off to black in the face, or a beautiful steel-grey. If I get all the other points I shall not mind if he is fawn, lemon, or orange-marked, though I believe Russians prefer a peculiar red-grey brindle if they cannot get a whole white, and for breeding many keep a whole-coloured bitch in the kennel, as such a one generally breeds good puppies, and is healthy and strong, thereby proving the old adage, "The darker the colour, the stronger the dog."

With these two admirable pictures of what a borzoi should be, I will proceed to quote the criticisms of what it is in this year of grace in England:—

THE DUCHESS OF NEWCASTLE.—I think we have quite as good specimens, and, on the whole, sounder than are to be found in their native land,—owing, I expect, to our less severe winter. Light eyes are, I am afraid, becoming too common, and breeders here think too much of size, getting with it flat sides and want of depth in chest. (Subsequently, after seeing the proofs of this article, Her Grace added these notes): Luckily very few specimens of the borzoi came from the Czar's kennels; his borzois, as a whole, are a particularly bad collection. It was the Grand Duke Nicholas who sent Mr. Cremiere over in February 1892 with a team of some twenty borzois, Oudar and his litter brother and two sisters being the best of the bunch. I thoroughly disagree with the statement that the borzoi is less sagacious than other dogs, and consider that in the criticisms of

his sense and temper he has been much maligned. I have had fourteen years' intimate friendship with, perhaps, three hundred borzois, and have come across no fools amongst them. Every one I have taken into the house, even including imported mature specimens that have been used for wolf-hunting, have been good-tempered, intelligent companions, absolutely devoted to me, and well able to take care of themselves. And during my experience of them I have not had a bad fight in my kennels. They are also easily taught tricks. As really faithful companions, they are first amongst breeds. A borzoi 30 inches in height should girth at least 35 inches, and the taller the dog the deeper in proportion should the girth be. This should prove to all borzoi breeders the great importance of not going for leggy, weedy animals; as far as height goes, the tall ones, at first sight, impress any one not really knowing the breed before the smaller but much heavier dog; but the judge who goes for height before heart room is doing his best to ruin the breed. Dogs from 29 to 32 inches are the best—bitches from 28 to 31. It is really only within the last ten years that the breed has become popular and quite common, but it may interest those who do not know it that the borzoi was known in this country as far back as 1863, when a dog, Katai by name, bred by the Czar, was shown at Birmingham. In 1869 H.R.H. the Prince of Wales showed a specimen at Islington. Lady Emily Peel was the next borzoi fancier, then Lady Charles Innes Kerr, Colonel Wellesley, and Mrs. Alfred Morrison. After this I came on the scene in 1890, and borzois have increased since then all over England.

MR. R. HOOD-WRIGHT.—I am not satisfied with type as it exists to-day. I think we are losing sight of the original use of the dog, and sacrificing type to coat, size, and length without breadth in head; consequently they are losing brain-power and intelligence.

MISS HELEN ARNOLD.—Taken as a whole the borzois just now lack the dark eye so characteristic of the breed, and the *silky* curly coat so prized by Russians. Also more attention should be given to heads and general soundness. Many think the silky curly coat wrong in a borzoi, but it is amongst the chief points in a Russian hound, as it clings closer to the body, and keeps out the weather (silk is warmer than wool). Others think that the borzoi should have ribs like a weather-board; a proper borzoi's ribs are sprung, so that his heart has room to beat and his lungs to expand. When they are bred like this we shall not hear of so many dropping down dead after galloping.

Dogs should have good arch, the bitches less. English breeders want bitches with as much arch as a dog, and are apt to say of really good bitches, "She lacks arch." The borzoi's arch should give his back a rounded appearance—not the "spikey" look so many have. No point values are given in the Club's book; if I had to draw up a scale I should assess them—Head, including eyes, ears, and expression, 20; neck, shoulders, and fore legs, 20; body between shoulders and hips, 20; hindquarters and hind legs, 20; coat, tail, and general type, 20; total—100. (Miss Helen Arnold is also exercised over my insufficient appreciation of the borzoi's character, and adds to her notes):—I agree with your notes criticising the intelligence of the *imported* borzoi. In Russia, of course, they are trained to be as savage as possible, and are essentially hounds, not pets, and all the conversation they are treated to is the whip. An English bred borzoi, *e.g.*, one that has been "talked to" and treated kindly, is as intelligent as any other breed of dog, and has a much longer memory than some. I will admit there are some strains that will *not* civilise, and have given the breed its bad name in this country. I carefully avoid them. Part of my ambition has been realised: I have just sold one of my strain of borzois to a Russian nobleman for *breeding*. Russian breeders may not like the new (English) disposition of the borzoi, and may call them "lap dogs!" My imported bitch, before she learnt English and took to domestication, could and would attack anything; but she soon learnt to obey, and became most gentle with every one.

MRS. J. M'INTYRE.—There are so many types of borzois that the question of satisfaction as regards type is difficult to answer. No two judges judge alike, and not one judge in ten is consistent in his judging throughout the classes. Borzois should be judged by their points, and points alone; we should then have one and the true breed. There is no use in having point values when the dogs are not judged by them.

MAJOR BORMAN.—There appears to be a tendency on the part of too many judges to go for size, without taking quality sufficiently into consideration; and more attention should be given by breeders to getting the long, lean head so characteristic of the borzoi. The following is, roughly, my idea of what point values ought to be—Head and expression, 20; legs and feet, 20; loin, 15; coat, 10; eyes, 5; ears, 5; tail, 5; girth and general symmetry of outline, 20; total—100.

The recommendations of the borzoi are infinite. The Duchess of Newcastle thinks "they have most

charming dispositions, most affectionate to their masters, and although perfectly civil to strangers don't make a fuss over them. They are, I consider, the most faithful of any breed of dog I have personally come in contact with, and are certainly the most handsome." Miss Helen Arnold likes them as a breed "for their size, beauty, and symmetry, and because, for ladies' dogs, they are not too heavy to handle, can follow horse or person, yet be contented and comfortable in a room." Mr. Hood-Wright deems them "beautiful and graceful, and the bitches make charming companions; but the dogs' natural instinct is to chase—consequently many of them are not desirable companions off the the lead." Mrs. M'Intyre thinks them "the most elegant of dogs; good friends and good companions, and very tractable. When reared properly they are very hardy. I like them best of any dogs; they are always sweet and clean, and free from the objectionable odour so many dogs have." Another lady-fancier writes: "Borzois seem to come truer to type than any other breed, and to pay for getting the best blood, and using the best sires. If—but that is a big 'if'—you can get them over distemper, they are very ornamental, affectionate, and—jealous. For all intents and purposes they are pet-dogs in England; they never knock over furniture or ornaments in a drawing-room; but otherwise they are stupid, and not always good-tempered under punishment, which is frequently necessary from their in-bred habit of chasing everything. But they are so graceful and so insinuating that one forgives them much. No doubt where they are kept for real sport they are different animals. One thing greatly in their favour is that they have no 'doggy' smell, which especially fits them for the house."

The *Borzoi Club*, of which the Duke and Duchess

of Newcastle are joint Presidents and the Marquis of Bath Vice-President, is one of the three institutions whose secretarial duties Mr. Hood-Wright so admirably conducts. The membership is over fifty, the annual subscription a guinea, and it possesses two twenty-five and two fifteen-guinea challenge cups. The following is the description of the hound given in the Club's publication :—

### STANDARD OF POINTS OF THE BORZOI

HEAD.—Long and lean. The skull flat and narrow; stop not perceptible, and muzzle long and tapering. The head from the forehead to the tip of the nose should be so fine that the shape and direction of the bones and principal veins can be clearly seen, and, in profile, should appear rather Roman-nosed. Bitches should be even narrower in the head than the dogs. Eyes dark, expressive, almond-shaped, and not too far apart. Ears like those of a greyhound—small, thin, and placed well back on the head, with the tips, when thrown back, almost touching behind the occiput.

NECK.—The head should be carried somewhat low, with the neck continuing the line of the back.

SHOULDERS.—Clean, and sloping well back.

CHEST.—Deep, and somewhat narrow.

BACK.—Rather boney, and free from any cavity in the spinal column, the arch in the back being more marked in the dog than in the bitch.

LOINS.—Broad and very powerful, with plenty of muscular development.

THIGHS.—Long and well developed, with good second thigh.

RIBS.—Slightly sprung at the angle of the ribs—deep, reaching to the elbow, and even lower.

FORE LEGS.—Lean and straight. Seen from the front they should be narrow from side to side, broad at the shoulders and narrowing gradually down to the foot, the bone appearing flat, and not round, as in the foxhound.

HIND LEGS.—The least thing under the body when standing still, not straight, and the stifle slightly bent.

MUSCLES.—Well distributed and highly developed.

PASTERNS.—Strong.

FEET.—Like those of the deerhound—rather long. The toes close together and well arched.

COAT.—Long, silky (not woolly); either flat, wavy, or curly. On the head, ears, and front legs it should be short and smooth. On the neck the frill should be profuse and rather curly. On the chest and rest of body, the tail and hindquarters, it should be long. The fore legs should be well feathered.

TAIL.—Long, well-feathered, and not gaily carried.

HEIGHT.—At shoulder of dogs, from 28 inches upwards; of bitches, from 26 inches upwards.

FAULTS.—Head short or thick; too much stop; parti-coloured nose; eyes too wide apart; heavy ears; heavy shoulders; wide chest; "barrel" ribbed; dew claws; elbows turned out; wide behind.

The hounds considered most typical in the breed include Champions *Velsk*, *Tsaritsa*, *Kieff*, *Statesman*, *Zeneitra*, *Volno*, *Vikhra*, and *Selwood Olga*, and I have selected the first-named for illustration.

Ch. *Velsk* was bred and is owned by H.G. the Duchess of Newcastle. His sire was *Korotai*, and his dam Ch. *Vikhra*, and he was whelped in December 1895. He stands 31 inches high, weighs 114 lbs., and is white in colour with silver-grey markings. He has very dark eyes, well carried ears and stern, and is the heaviest coated dog on the show-bench; also the strongest boned. He is absolutely perfect in expression. The photograph is a first-rate one, and shows the dog in his best coat; "but," writes his owner, "as nothing in the world is perfect, I should like to see Ch. *Velsk* a shade shorter in the back, and with a trifle more arch; otherwise I can find no fault." *Velsk* is the winner of eleven championships and seventy-six first prizes, and has sired an immense number of winning progeny, amongst them being Champions *Tatiana*, *Velsk Votrio*, *Knois*, and *Theodora;* and he was the sire of the four borzois exhibited with great success by H.M. the Queen in 1903.

## THE DACHSHUND

THE delightful fascination which the dachshund-fancier finds in this quaint, little "badger-dog" (to translate its name literally), and the enormous popularity it has achieved since its introduction into this country about twenty-five years ago, are the best tributes to its worth. Whilst it is an "acquired taste," and probably "caviare to the general," it is a taste that lingers long. The cult of the curious is oftentimes the most precious, as it is the most enthusiastic, and I should feel inclined to describe the dachshund as the *bric-à-brac* of dogdom. Not that I would deny his sporting and useful qualities, for he has them in multitude, and blends many of the virtues of the hound and the terrier; but when I look upon him, kept solely for a companion, as he almost always is in England, I must confess, even at the risk of displeasing his devotees, that he seems to me to come quite as much under the category of being a fad as being a fancy. For although an artist friend of mine tells me that he vastly prefers a dachshund for a model to any other dog, I shall still continue to harbour doubts as to whether it is an artistic dog, and regard it more as an individualistic one from my unfascinated point of view.

The certificated history of the dachshund does not extend back very far, although some have derived a

*I. Lucas, photo.*

*Ch.* SLOAN.

*L. Breslauer, photo.*

*Ch.* SNAKES PRINCE.

DACHSHUNDS.

PLATE VII.

comforting reflection from the fact that a kindred type of long-bodied, low-legged dog has been found depicted in Egyptian hieroglyphics, as you may see for yourself by taking an observation in the absorbing galleries of the British Museum. But he would be a bold fancier who would link these departed dogs with the dachshund of to-day. There are other dogs with similar formation—notably the turnspit and the basset-hound, to which some would trace the origin of the dachshund from the period of the invasion of Germany by the French in the wars of the seventeenth century. Cuvier and other writers tell us the turnspit was of two descriptions—namely, one with the fore legs crooked, the other with the same members straight; but the heads of both were like the pointer or hound, and both were short-legged, long-backed, strange-looking animals. That description might apply to the dachshund, though it probably would not satisfy the fancier.

It is said that there are two types of dachshund: the hound type and the terrier. Only one—the former—is recognised in this country, and Mr. A. C. de Boinville, in a recent exhaustive article on the breed, failed to find any specimen of terrier type to illustrate remarks on the subject. He quoted an amusing retort made by a correspondent in the *Live Stock Journal* some twenty-three years ago, who, in discussing the suggestion with regard to the controverted hound and terrier type in the dachshund, whereof another correspondent had written, "There is something to settle," capped it with the observation, "Quite right; all so-called terrier-dachshunds should be settled as quickly as possible!" And Mr. de Boinville adds, "After taking great pains to get some German gentlemen whom I know to explain to me the difference between the German dog and my own dogs, I have found it

impossible to get anything from them but that 'most' of the winners at the best German shows are identically of the same type as our winners, but, in some instances, a little less heavy."

On the other hand, it is certain that dachshunds perform the terrier duties of going to ground after foxes and badgers, and should be terriers according to nomenclature, if not by nature; but they qualify their subterranean duties by a certain marked reticence in attack, and by a disposition to bark rather than bite. And the hound is apparent in the character of their head and ears, their hunting methods, their gregarious instincts, the carriage of their tail, and the music they give in chase; whilst you have only to set them on higher, straight, hound-like legs to make them very handsome hounds of accepted type.

The dachshund came to us from Germany, where it divides the affection of the dog-loving classes with the Great Dane, and is the subject of a stud book and special study. There are several varieties of the breed: dogs with straight as well as crooked legs; dogs varying much in weight; coarse-framed and fine-built dogs; wire-haired dogs; long, silky-haired dogs, and dogs with short, soft, sleek coats like satin; dogs with sterns that may almost be described as feathered, and dogs with slim, tapering tails; not to mention dogs of all colours, from black and tan to the lightest red, including in the gamut grey, chocolate, pied, and dappled. In short, the race of German dachshunds differs as much in its physical characteristics and constitution as do our English tribe of terriers. And for the faults of the breed, they seem to be much more prevalent in its native land than in England, for we read of pig snouts, short underjaws, apple-heads, deep-set or goggle eyes, roach backs, ringed tails, fore legs, knock-kneed, and long, well let

down hind legs—points out of keeping with the true type. In this country the type is, by common consent, much more level than in the Fatherland, and although our bench will produce you plenty of criticisms in detail, and some hyper-criticisms, taken as a whole the breed, as developed by British fanciers, is as uniform as any of our indigenous species of dogs.

As a sporting dog the dachshund is gifted with a marvellously acute scent, and is a fine, if unavoidably slow hunter. When in company he gives tongue, but not so freely and melodiously as other dwarf hunting-hounds, and generally restricts himself to a series of short, shrill barks, though now and again you may come across a musical performer. It has great tenacity and perseverance, and has been known to keep digging at a quarry gone to ground for thirty-six hours; but when it comes to the pinch it lacks the tigerishness of the fighting terrier. In America, where dachshunds are used for sporting work, they have been found admirable for tracking wounded deer, rabbit-hunting, partridge and squirrel "treeing," rat and cat killing, and one, which surely deserves immortalisation, is reported to have bayed a bear till its master arrived to shoot the fearful wild beast.

In England dachshunds have been used for hunting badger with considerable success; they have grand digging powers, and are very keen to go to earth. But whilst they will bay a badger underground, they require a "bit of grit" in the shape of an English terrier to be working with them to bring the badger to book if he is obstinate. And they will often come away with hardly a scratch from an encounter that has been calamitous to their allies.

The civilisation and domestication of the non-sporting life to which the badger-dog has, in the majority of

cases, been consigned in this country appear to have changed his character, for he bears a very peaceable one, and is accounted genial. Otherwhere we read of him as being singularly quarrelsome, exasperatingly disobedient, and terribly destructive of such articles as can fire his blood—as, for instance, a fur rug or a sealskin jacket. But he also has the reputation of possessing unparalleled courage and endurance, and these outweigh the faults "of which he is full." In Germany the gamekeeper exhibits towards him something of the ultra-affection which the miner or mill-hand of the north of England displays for a winning racing-whippet, or an Arab for his horse; and it is exceedingly difficult to buy a trained dog of the right sort.

I have received the following notes upon dachshunds from fanciers of the breed which cannot fail to be read with interest:—

MR. A. C. DE BOINVILLE.—I am satisfied with type as long as we in the fancy can breed dogs like Ch. *Snakes Prince* or *Berta*. At the present time a good stud-dog, imported from abroad and of the type of *Rother Beelzebub*, would be very useful. There seem a number of good—very good—bitches, both brood and show, but a sad want of sound stud-dogs, with plenty of strength of jaw. However, in Champions *Wirral Hollybranch* and *Hollyberry* we have a pair of beautifully-shaped dogs, deep in chest, and as sound as the proverbial bell. Their breeder and owner will remember with pride the year 1903. Put *Snakes Prince's* head on *Wirral Hollybranch's* body and you would have a *perfect* dog. Referring to the "terrier" type of dachshund, I know of none in this country. I believe that the German gentleman who officiated at the Alexandra Palace as judge some two or three years ago brought over half-a-dozen — and they *all* went back to their Fatherland. On the other hand, I am told that most, if not all the winners in Germany are of the same type as our dogs over here, and this in my mind settles the question as to which is the correct type. Although the illustrations I have seen of the German dogs make them appear rather snipey, I see no terrier type about them. They have been called the "maid of all work," which really is the best definition of a dachshund, and

*Ch.* WIRRAL HOLLYBRANCH.

*Ch.* HOLLYBERRY.

DACHSHUNDS.

PLATE VIII.

fully bears out what I say of the dogs, if properly trained, doing all they are asked to do.

MR. N. D. SMITH.—The present type is too large and soft; the dogs should be smaller and more active. I like a dachshund with plenty of room in his chest; if it is deep, what is the use of its being narrow? He would be just as likely to stick one way as another in going to ground, and he must have room for his lungs if he is to bark for any length of time. Also, what is the use of long ears set on low? Something for the badger to hold on to! They generally get them bitten in a fight. I do not agree with the point values laid down by the Dachshund Club, and would apportion them as follows;—Head and skull, 7; jaw, 5; teeth, 4; eyes, 4; ears, 4; neck, 5; chest and ribs, 7; back and loin, 7; shoulders, fore legs, and feet, 15; hindquarters, hind legs, and feet, 8; stern, 7; coat and skin, 10; colour, 4; size, symmetry, and quality, 13; total—100. The Club allows no points for neck, which is of the greatest importance in a dog that has to attack a badger. I enclose a photograph of my old dog *Waldmann;* it was a name that about half the dachshunds were called by before registration came in. I bought him from Mr. Schuller of Poland Street in 1878. He imported a great many when they first came into fashion in England. I never exhibited *Waldmann*, as I kept him for work, and he was always covered with scars, as he would fight as long as he could stand. His weight was 18 lbs., and he could go to ground anywhere, and was a very handsome little dog, with a lot of quality, and might have done a good deal of winning.

MR. A. BRADBURY.—I cannot say I am satisfied with type. My ideal of type is the one given as a frontispiece in the translation of the "German Standard of Dachshunds," which was presented by Mr. Watlock Allen with his book *Dachshund Pedigrees.* Imported blood is, I think, the only means of recovering activity in our dogs, in which they are now sadly deficient, and would also, no doubt, considerably check unsoundness, which is so rampant, and probably caused by in-breeding. The only values of points we have are those drawn up by the Dachshund Club in 1881, which were evidently fixed for the "houndy" dogs, with peak very prominent on top of head, as in bloodhounds, whereas breeders now do all they can to avoid this type. It therefore goes without saying that this standard requires considerable modification and amendment, particularly as regards head and ears.

MRS. B. F. SCARLETT.—I consider type has been greatly im-

proved by the introduction of German imported blood. Some six years ago our English dogs were full of quality, but too large, too long, and too weak. Unsoundness was getting to be a common fault, even in puppies. This has greatly improved, and I favour the medium-sized dogs; but we must be careful still about soundness. I like a specialist judge for dachshunds, and if all specialist-judge lists were done away with I should give up showing in my favourite breeds, and I have had considerable success in them. In foreign dogs the all-round judge is sadly out of it.

MRS. CANCH-KAVANAGH.—I am far from satisfied with the present type; it is wanting in jaw, bone, and soundness at shoulder —probably the result of in-breeding, and also reducing dachshunds to toys. The useful working points are not sufficiently recognised in the standard adopted by the Club; such details as carriage of ears and tail are not so essential as strength of jaw and soundness of limb. The hound *versus* terrier type has been so often discussed that there is little good in alluding to it. Personally I have found the hound qualities more useful in the breed. Nature never provided the dachshund with such a magnificent nose with the intention that he should be a terrier pure and simple.

Other lady-fanciers write:—"I think the type good, but breeders should be very careful about legs, and especially feet. Nor do I think the whole-coloured ones should be crossed with dappled specimens."—"Dachshunds have been in a whirl of trouble for some time between the English and German advocates. Somehow—perhaps because I have imported German dogs—I am considered to have been on the German side. I certainly have stood up for German soundness, and I hope have helped to introduce it into many kennels. But our quarantine laws will prevent dogs being imported, so they will soon all be in-bred again." —"We have some very good and typical bitches in the breed, but there is a lamentable failing in the dogs. Whether this is due to the often accepted theory that bitches are more typical than dogs, or merely to the accident of the moment, I cannot say, but I should dearly love to see a strikingly good sire introduced."

The recommendations of the breed include it, viewed from a sporting as well as a domestic aspect. Mr. de Boinville writes: "My love for the breed is probably due to the fact that when only a boy I was constantly in the company of keepers who worked the dachshund daily.

I think him a most intelligent, loving, and devoted companion, and, when well trained, as hard and willing a worker as any dog can be. He is all over a sporting dog, with a keen nose, and can, if trained, be used as a hound, a spaniel, a terrier, or even a pointer. All depends on the training he receives." Mr. A. Bradbury: "They are good watch-dogs in a house, and very companionable. If trained to the gun afford excellent sport with rabbits. I have been told that if hunted in packs they make good trail dogs, but have no experience of this." Mr. N. D. Smith: "They are useful to work with the gun, but are not so good as spaniels or terriers. Some of them go to ground well, and are very game and persevering. I have kept and worked them for more than twenty-five years. But they have to be left alone, for they work, and in fact do things generally in their own way." Mrs. Scarlett: "The dachshund is an excellent all-round dog and companion; but still not everybody's dog, as they have tempers and are obstinate. It is not every one that can manage them. This seems to be a fact not generally known. To persons of indecision and let-it-slide manners and mind dachshunds are not the dogs to be recommended, for to such they would become a nuisance. These may get a pug with more chance of comfort to their friends. But to one able to manage it the dachshund is as good in the house as outside; but in quantity, in kennels, many of their good qualities are lost, and some of their bad ones unduly developed, such as a decided turn for fighting. I have heard it said they were too 'soft'; I can only say I have never been troubled in that way, but have had a hard time of it, what with fights and cat-killing—weaknesses very apparent in a favourite of mine, imported from Germany. Three other dear dogs of her own breed have I had to part

with because of fights, and yet she is the best of mothers, and the kindest friend and companion. And so clever I always feel I could go away and leave her to look after the house. She was a great cat-killer when I first had her, but having once taken a fancy to adopt a kitten has since then left cats alone. I have done what I could to encourage toy classes at shows for some time. The toys are dear little things, though in England we have them double the size they should be. But, somehow, they do not seem to 'take on' here, though in Germany the 'Kaninchen tekkel' is a classified and much-kept dog. But to please me they must be good and of quality—not just small as their only merit. My favourite colour is a black and tan; no dog does his coat more credit." Mrs. Canch-Kavanagh: "Used as a slow, running beagle, and for beating out thick cover, the dachshund has few if any equals."—"They are very clever and full of character, devoted to their own people, most sporting, and most of them will kill both cats and rats."

The following is the Standard of Points of the dachshund, as drawn up by *The Dachshund Club* in 1881. The breed is well catered for, there being four institutions devoted to its fancy—to wit, *The Dachshund Club*, *The Junior Dachshund Club*, *The Scottish Dachshund Club*, and *The Northern Dachshund Association.*

STANDARD OF POINTS OF THE DACHSHUND

HEAD AND SKULL.—Long, level, and narrow; peak well developed; no stop; eyes intelligent and somewhat small; follow body in colour.

EARS.—Long, broad, and soft, set on low and well back, carried close to the head.

JAW.—Strong, level, and square to the muzzle; canines recurvent.

CHEST.—Deep and narrow; breast bone prominent.

LEGS AND FEET.—Fore legs very short and strong in bone, well crooked, not standing over; elbows well clothed with muscle—neither in nor out; feet large, round, and strong, with thick pads and strong nails;

hind legs smaller in bone and higher; hind feet smaller. The dog must stand true, *i.e.*, equally on all parts of the foot.

SKIN AND COAT.—Skin thick, loose, and supple, and in great quantity; coat dense, short, and strong.

LOIN.—Well arched, long, and muscular.

STERN.—Long and strong, flat at root, tapering to the tip; hair on underside coarse; carried low except when excited. Quarters very muscular.

BODY.—Length from back of head to root of stern 2½ times the height at shoulder; fore ribs well sprung, back ribs very short.

COLOUR.—Any colour; nose to follow body colour. Much white objectionable.

SYMMETRY AND QUALITY —The dachshund should be long, low, graceful, and not cloddy.

WEIGHT.—Dogs about 21 lbs., bitches about 18 lbs.

POINT VALUES—

| | |
|---|---|
| Head and skull | 12 |
| Ears | 6½ |
| Jaw | 5 |
| Chest | 7 |
| Legs and feet | 20 |
| Skin and coat | 13 |
| Loin | 8 |
| Stern | 5 |
| Body | 8½ |
| Colour | 4 |
| Symmetry and quality | 11 |
| Total | 100 |

*Note.*—The Dachshund Club do not advocate point-judging; the figures are only used to show the comparative value of the features.

To these points I am glad to be able to add a few general remarks sent me by a very old fancier of the breed, as follows:—

In size the dachshund ought not to exceed the following:—Height at shoulder, 10 inches; height at elbow, 6 inches; from ground to brisket, 2½ inches; girth of chest should be 20½ inches; length of head, 8½ inches; occiput to set on of stern, 22 inches; stern, 9 inches; weight, 19 lbs. Bitches should measure less than the above scale, and be much lighter.

A dachshund should be a bright, strong, active little dog, with a good-tempered but determined expression; walk with a firm, decided step; carry his neck and head well in front of him,

and have none of his points exaggerated. He should neither be a hound nor a terrier, but a type of his own.

The following champion dogs are considered by my contributors the most typical in the breed:—*Sloan*, *Snakes Prince*, *Wirral Hollybranch*, *Hollyberry*, *Sly Boots*, *Clifton Wonder*, *Doreen*, *Lenchen*, and *Brandesburton Mimosa*. I am glad to be able to include four of these in my illustrations, as well as a picture of Waldmann, a dog of a quarter of a century ago, which is interesting for comparison with the present type.

Ch. *Sloan* was bred by Mrs. Smith, and is the property of Mr. N. D. Smith; he is by Ch. *Hotspur* ex *Semolina*, and was born in August 1898. He stands 10 inches at shoulder, weighs 21 lbs., and is of a golden red colour. He has clear hazel eyes, brown nose, ears set well back, coat short and strong, girths 21 inches, and is 42 inches from tip of nose to tip of tail. Two or three pounds less weight would improve him in his owner's opinion. He has won five championships, seventeen first prizes, and is a marvellous sire of winners, his progeny including Brandesburton Mimosa, and many other dogs with great reputations.

Ch. *Wirral Hollybranch* was bred by Mrs. Bradbury, and is owned by Mr. A. Bradbury; his sire was *Brandesburton Minimus* and his dam *Carmen Sylva*, and he was born in December 1900. He is a red dog of good quality, very shapely in body, with good loin, nice type of head, and well placed ears. He stands well on his pads and is thoroughly sound. He has won five championships, and twenty-seven first, challenge cups, etc. He has recently been placed at stud, so that he has not had time to produce winning progeny yet, but great things are hoped for.

Ch. *Hollybranch*, litter brother to the last-named, is very like him in every way. He is a dark-red dog, very active, nice sized body with plenty of muscle, deep in keel, and good stern. Clean in head, stands well, and is quite sound. He is the winner of three championships and twenty-three first and special prizes.

Ch. *Snakes Prince* was bred by Mrs. de Boinville, by *Woodin* ex *Victoria Ivedon*, and born in June 1897. His owner, Mr. A. C. de Boinville, describes him as "a red dog, weighing 22 lbs., and measuring 10¼ inches at shoulder. Eyes, clear hazel; nose and claws, brown; strong and very thick, short coat; loose, leathery skin; faultless teeth; perfectly level mouth and

good jaw; well placed tail, strong and flat at root, well finished and tapering; well-shaped ears, thrown out forward when excited. Measurements: Length of head, 8½ inches; length of tail, 9 inches; over all, 40½ inches; chest measurement, 22 inches. *Snakes Prince* has won four championships and thirty-three first prizes, and is the sire of Ch. *Lenchen* and many winning dachshunds."

WALDMANN (1878).

## THE DEERHOUND

THE magic pen of Scott and the marvellous brush of Landseer found a subject not unworthy of their genius in the Scottish deerhound, and they may be said to have educated the modern English-speaking peoples into an appreciation of this noble and beautiful breed. Around it hangs the halo of romance; we connect it with Gelert saving its master's infant from the wolf, and with that spendid creature in *The Talisman*, which is reputed to have saved the life of *Richard Cœur de Lion;* we admire it in Landseer's matchless canvases, where it is ever nobly used to add to the stories it illustrates the spirit of the chase or the pathos of canine fidelity. It is associated in the minds of the least doggy people with nothing that is ignoble, but on the contrary appeals to them with the humanised instinct of the St. Bernard and the Newfoundland. As a type of dog I doubt whether the mere picture of any other breed can excel it in creating emotion and admiration, or recalling the glow that comes from aristocratic and heroic associations.

And yet, to be just to dog shows, it is indisputable that they arrived just in time to rescue the deerhound from threatening extinction. For as Nero fiddled whilst Rome was burning, so we English—British I should more properly say—gushed into raptures over a

DEERHOUND.

*Ch.* SELWOOD DHOURAN. PLATE IX.

shadow whilst the substance was almost in the act of departing. I do not know, on reconsideration, whether the simile is very apposite; but what I wish to convey is that we are rather apt to fiddle-faddle over romantic fiction whilst we ignore cold facts—rather apt to weep over the *Song of the Shirt* whilst we clothe our soldiers in shirts that are contracted to be sewn for a few farthings. And whilst Scott was being republished in cheap edition after cheap edition, and Landseer's pictures reproduced in inexpensive duplicate, we thought less of the deerhound in the flesh than in the spirit, and if it had not been for dog shows and a few level-headed practical fanciers the noble animal might have died out altogether whilst we were weeping over a pen or pencil portrait of him.

Look through any of the books published about dogs in the first half of the nineteenth century, and you will find but meagre mention of the Scottish deerhound. Even in an edition of Goldsmith's *Animated Nature*, issued in 1864, with an Appendix on modern dogs supposed to be brought up to date, the deerhound, or "Scottish greyhound," as it is called, is dismissed with a line and a half of description, whilst the Esquimaux dog is accorded a couple of pages, and the Samoyede a page. Two other books at my elbow do not mention it at all, though they dilate on the Irish wolf-dog (as an extinct species) and the Maltese terrier. So much for the practical lessons of Scott and Landseer in the 'Fifties and 'Sixties. It would almost seem from contemporaneous literature that the hound only lived in their pages and canvas about that period. But with the institution of dog shows the fine old breed claimed, and had its claim allowed too, recognition amongst the earliest exhibited varieties; and if, with the passage of time, it has not gained that wide popularity

it deserves, it has at least become firmly established, and is not likely to dwindle back into the obscurity which has engulfed the lost tribes of Israel, and the deerhound had almost shared before dog shows came to fish it out from the waters of oblivion.

Notwithstanding the neglect to which it was subjected in the deathly dull inanition of the inartistic middle Victorian era, the deerhound is an ancient, and, in many ways, a royal breed of dog. We may brush aside the theory that it was descended from the Irish wolf-hound, for assuredly Scotland, with its wild glens and rugged mountain tracks swarming with deer, was well equipped to produce a hunting hound for the chase of them. Nature provides these things; she does not wait for man to invent them; at least she "didn't used to"; in this twentieth century man is a length ahead of nature, and has discovered gramaphones, Marconigrams, and radium. But this is neither here nor there, and I accept the hypothesis that if Nature provided wolves in Ireland and the wolf-dog to exterminate them, she was quite capable of providing the deerhound in the sister kingdom without any help from Erin in their procreation.

One thing I willingly allow: that the Scottish deerhound has a strain of ancient Irish wolf-hound blood in it to the same extent that the Irish terrier has a dash of Scottish terrier somewhere in its pedigree. The two countries could scarcely fail to interchange dogs amongst other commodities. But whatever the deerhound may have borrowed from the wolf-hound in the past, it has returned to the wolf-hound of the present. That it is again beginning to borrow is another matter altogether, and one of which two or three of my contributors hint as true in theory if not in fact. But, after all, wolf-hound and deerhound, are they

not both allied breeds—noble breeds—peerless breeds? And shall we find fault with them for claiming a cousinship? Not I, for one; nor, I think, any fancier who loves perfection in a hunting hound, or can appreciate a Dublin Fusilier and a Gordon Highlander side by side, as these two dogs may fitly stand.

As I have said, the Scottish deerhound is an ancient breed. You may read incidentally of it in the earliest chapters of Scottish history. The old English historian, Holinshed, tells us how certain Pictish nobles went a-hunting in the domains of Crainlint, King of the Scots, and when they were departing gave diplomatic praise to certain Scottish greyhounds that were better than their own strain of dogs. Royal hospitality demanded that a gift should be made them of a few couples. But one dog they greatly coveted was not included in the offering, and they had the meanness to steal it. The which gave rise to war and a fierce battle, wherein many on both sides were slain. Whereby you may perceive that even in those far times the deerhound was accounted worth fighting over. Then, again (as Mr. Rawdon Lee recalls in a most instructive and interesting article on the breed), there is mention of the deerhound in the days of Robert Bruce, when a famous couple, called *Help* and *Hold*, were the heroes in the chase of a white deer in the Pentland Hills, on their ability to catch which their master, Sir William St. Clair, had wagered his head against a grant of broad acres by the Scottish king,—a most charming and breathless epic, in which the hounds just succeeded in winning for their master a magnificent demesne. I can vaguely enter into the triumph of killing that "white" deer, for it was my good fortune on two occasions to bag a white antelope on the plains of India. In the sixteenth century the deerhound was

reported to exist in considerable numbers, but after that they appear to have declined to some extent, notwithstanding that they were fostered by some of the great Scottish chiefs. The Gordons, the Macdonnels, the MacPhersons, the Lochiels of Lochabar, the M'Kenzies, and the MacLeods all had strains of their own. Johnson, in his *Tour to the Hebrides*, makes mention of a breed of deerhound indigenous to the Isle of Skye, which he

DEERHOUND (1850).

describes as "a brindled greyhound larger and stronger than those with which we course hares." Baron Cuvier's description is "a wiry-haired greyhound, with long, curling, stiffish hair, generally white, inclining to a reddish-brown tinge."

Coming to more modern times, we find the deerhound retaining its pristine spirit and courage, and exhibiting a gallantry worthy of Gelert of old. Sir Samuel Baker, in one of his earliest books treating of

big game shooting in Ceylon, gives us a fine description of the feats of a deerhound called "Smut," the hero of countless battles, and of one especially in which he bayed and seized by the cheek a wounded elk, hanging on to the powerful and infuriated animal at deadly peril to himself till his master was able to spear it. This happened in the 'Sixties. The feat, however, fades into insignificance compared to the performance of sundry deerhounds in America in quite recent years, as may be deduced from the following spirited account of wolf-hunting, which I excerpt from an article by Dr. Van Hummell, a noted deerhound-fancier in the United States, in the *American Book of the Dog*:—

A high-bred deerhound, properly trained, has more courage and can stand more punishment than any other dog. He can run fast enough to catch an antelope, jack rabbit, cayote, wolf, deer, or elk; he will tree a mountain lion or bear, and will even fight a grizzly bear long enough for you to place yourself in safety.

Some years since I sold a trained pack of six deerhounds to the Sun River Hound Club of Montana, which was composed of wealthy cattlemen who were losing thousands of dollars worth of cattle annually through the ravages of the large, grey timber wolf. They hired Mr. Porter, an experienced wolf-hunter, to handle this pack of deerhounds on their cattle-range for one year, and I had guaranteed the dogs to kill any wolf in the locality.

It seems that one of the members of the club had a large flock of sheep, and one certain wolf had been preying on them for four years past; this tremendous wolf was to be the first one the pack was to tackle. If they could catch and kill him, my guarantee was to be considered fulfilled. The rest of the story is best told in the letters Mr. Porter wrote me.

"Dear Doctor—The dogs and I arrived safe—only very sore from long travel. These men are very anxious to see what kind of work these high-priced dogs will do. Last night that big wolf they wrote you about killed four sheep near the house, and I followed him five or six miles, merely to see what he looked like. I saw him, and I want to tell you now that I think my job and you dog-money will be gone when I allow the dogs to go near

that wolf! But I can't hold these men much longer, so I promised to go after him the day after to-morrow."

(Two days later.)—"Dear Doctor—Last night, or rather just before daylight, we heard the wolf in the sheep-corral, and went out to scare him away. He had already killed one sheep and eaten of it freely. At daylight myself and three club members took four of the dogs (Oscar and Meta being still too sore to work) and started after the big fellow. We followed him for at least ten miles before we could show him to the dogs. They went to him very quickly, he depending more on his fighting than running qualities. Colonel and Dan reached him first, and struck him with such force that he went down—never to get up again. They killed him in a short time, and neither of the dogs got a scratch. The Colonel took his old hold at the throat, and never let go until I choked him off. Colonel, you know, is just 30 inches high at the shoulder. We stood this wolf up beside Colonel, and he was just one inch taller than the dog. We brought the wolf home to see what he weighed, and he tipped the beam at 107 lbs. To say the club members were delighted at the dogs is putting it too mild. They were simply crazed. The country is alive with wolves and other game."

During that season Mr. Porter killed 148 grey wolves and over 300 cayottes. Amongst many letters extolling the wonderful courage of these grand dogs, the following shows what six dogs, well trained to their work, can do:—

"Dear Doctor—To-day I suddenly came upon a pack of fifteen full-grown wolves. I had all six dogs with me, and they were in good form. I was satisfied that unless we did good work, and that quickly, the wolves would kill the dogs. So I jumped amongst them, and as soon as the dogs got one wolf down I stuck my knife into its heart. In this way we killed twelve out of the fifteen; but I am sorry to say that poor, old, faithful, courageous Dan was killed."

If a tale of derring-do like this does not delight the heart of all deerhound-fanciers, they are hard to please! I know not which to admire most—the daring of the deerhounds or the prowess, so modestly related, of Mr. Porter.

Turning now to the twentieth century deerhound, I have received the following review of the breed from Mr. Hood-Wright, a learned judge of the fancy, the

breeder and exhibitor of two of the most successful hounds of modern days, and the Honorary Secretary of the Deerhound Club :—

It is a pity that the *raison d'être* of the deerhound, or (as I prefer to hear it called) the Scottish staghound, has vanished. Owing to the subdivision of deer forests, the law that a wounded stag cannot be followed and killed on another man's ground, and last, though by no means least, the use of explosive bullets, that seldom leave a stricken quarry the ability to run away, the deerhound is now scarcely ever entered to his proper sphere of sport, and but very few of the owners or renters of deer forests keep it, or would know the use of it if they did. Thus it happens that the deerhound has come to be kept entirely as a companion or guard in this country, and I dare assert there are more deerhounds kept within a radius of twenty or thirty miles of Birmingham than throughout the whole of Scotland. I am no bigot ; there are very few breeds of dogs, especially big dogs, that I have not kept, bred, and shown ; but I must say for a good, honest, all-round pal the deerhound comes first in my opinion. The most remarkable thing about the breed is that it has not become more popular, for considering the numbers that were shown thirty odd years ago and at the present time, they have increased very little, and improved nothing. There were as good, if not better, dogs then than there are now, although at the present time there are more and better bitches. I suppose one reason is that they are not easy to rear, a great percentage dying from distemper—caused, no doubt, by in-breeding. I have tried getting a fresh strain from the Highlands, but the result has been coarse, thick skulls, want of size, and light eyes—a fault I detest. Again, I have used a bitch bred by Her Grace the Duchess of Wellington, a cross between the Lochiel strain and the celebrated borzoi Ch. Krilutt, which I considered the most perfectly built dog of any breed of his time. This has been more satisfactory, and the whelps, with one-eighth borzoi blood in them, did not show the slightest trace of, and less white than in the ordinary deerhound. Another reason of the deerhound's lack of popularity may be traced, I fancy, to its gaunt and rugged appearance. I suppose it is an acquired taste, but in the eyes of the deerhound-fancier and artist nothing comes up to this breed in point of beauty and symmetry. Of course exceptions prove the rule ; but I have found them most free from vice of any kind—splendid followers of either bike or carriage, good guards for ladies ; and although the quietest dogs

living, there are none a tramp has a greater horror of; and if you have a deerhound loose about your place you will be free from the visits of these undesirable gentry.

Deerhounds are especially good followers of the horse, and become almost as much attached to it as to its master; and they will wait, without being shut up, beside a horse. I can drive to any strange town with three dogs following, and leave them unattended for hours, certain to find them where I left them when it is time to go.

Although very intelligent, deerhounds do not pick up tricks like Great Danes, poodles, etc. But they are very acute. As an instance, we have one whose dam died when he was a tiny puppy, and he was brought up entirely in the kitchen; consequently, very much spoiled. One day I caught his lordship chasing the Alderney cow, so I corrected him with a new whip. The whip disappeared, and was found some days after under a piece of carpet in Master Glen's box.

Of course there is not such a thing as perfection in deerhounds, and they require watching and checking, as their natural instinct makes them inclined to chase all animals. But being firm once or twice with them soon breaks them of any bad habit. In fact no breed is easier taught command.

In conjunction with an old friend, Mr. Hickman of Birmingham, I drew up the points and description of the deerhound years ago; and at the present time I do not see where I can make any alteration with a view to improvement.

I have received the following criticisms of present-day type and general observations on the breed :—

DR. LYCETT BURD.—I feel strongly that we are getting the deerhound too big, and consequently that they tend towards coarseness, and are lacking in true deerhound character and expression, which should be essentially aristocratic, gentle, and full of quality. With increase of size we are also, in some degree, losing activity and grace of movement—due partly to the prevalence of small, ill-shaped cow-hocks and straight stifles. I think the values of the points wrong in several particulars—*e.g.*, too much is given to height, feet, and tail, whilst 2 for nails is absurd. Too little is given for substance and girth, and to give the same value practically for tail as for eyes appears to me wrong. I should assign the values thus :—Head, 10; ears, 4; beard, 3; eyes, 8; coat, 8; neck, 8; tail, 2; nails, 1; teeth, 7;

height, 7; girth, 10; length and symmetry of body, 9; loins and hocks, 10; fore legs, 8; and feet 5—total, 100.

MRS. M'INTYRE.—The deerhound seems to me to be getting more of the wolf-hound type—too big and clumsy, with heavy heads. If owners would breed for quality instead of size it would help to improve the breed. A deerhound should be bred for speed, and therefore should be graceful and elegant. The one idea now appears to be to breed for size, and in so doing the elegance is lost, and they are far too heavy to show much speed. I have kept both deerhounds and borzois; the former I much prefer, both for looks and affection; I find them so unselfish, whereas the borzoi always thinks of itself first, and so long as it is happy and comfortable cares nothing for any one else. But unfortunately I find the deerhounds harder to rear than borzois, so I have very few in my kennels. I think the deerhound the most faithful and almost the most intelligent dog there is, and, as a general rule, it is most unselfish.

MRS. H. ARMSTRONG.—The type of the breed to-day is inclined to become too large and coarse, leaning to that of the Irish wolf-hound. In my opinion a deerhound standing 30 inches at shoulder is quite big enough; and with this size the quality and refinement so essential to the breed are more readily obtained. A deerhound, for his size, is perhaps the most gentle of all breeds. Remarkably faithful and affectionate, easily trained, and most obedient; intelligent, as a rule, and quiet and not easily excitable, as some breeds are.

MR. HOOD-WRIGHT.—There has been no improvement during the last forty years, nor yet deterioration; but no doubt in-breeding has made them much more difficult to rear than they were a score of years ago. They are the most refined and best pals of any of the big breeds, having the cuteness of disposition of the collie, without being treacherous. They easily adapt themselves as household pets, and do not take up more room than a collie.

MRS. BEDWELL.—I am not satisfied with modern type, except in a very few specimens. Prizes are given to great, coarse giants, with no true deerhound character about them. The breed is being ruined by crossing the deerhound with the borzoi and Irish wolf-hound. The over-long, badly-shaped heads of the present day are truly appalling. If judged by the points as laid down by the club, deerhounds would soon improve and the bad specimens be weeded out. But judges appear to differ so greatly in what they consider the true type that it is quite hopeless to try

and breed dogs to please all. I consider the deerhound, if a *true* deerhound, the most elegant and graceful of any breed of dog, and as a sporting companion it cannot be surpassed. It is most intelligent, wonderfully docile, and a clean house-guard.

*The Deerhound Club's* publication (which appears in a tartan cover that is redolent of north of the Tweed) shows it to be a remarkably flourishing institution of nearly fifty members, with a very strong committee, and Mr. Hood-Wright for Honorary Secretary. The subscription is a guinea per annum. The club owns a couple of fifteen-guinea pieces of challenge plate for the best dog and best bitch in the breed, and is generous in its apportionment of special prizes in the pleasing form of silver medals. It has a very full list of sixteen specialist judges. The following are the points of the breed as adopted by the club :—

STANDARD OF POINTS OF THE SCOTTISH DEERHOUND

HEAD.—Should be broadest at the ears, tapering slightly to the eyes, with the muzzle tapering more decidedly to the nose. The muzzle should be pointed, but the teeth and lips level. The head should be rather long, the skull flat rather than round, with a very slight rise over the eyes, but nothing approaching a stop. The skull should be coated with moderately long hair, which is softer than the rest of the coat. The nose should be black, though in some blue-fawns the colour is blue, and slightly aquiline. In the lighter-coloured dogs a black muzzle is preferred. There should be a good moustache of rather silky hair, and a fair beard.

EARS.—Should be set on high, and, in repose, folded back like the greyhound's, though raised above the head in excitement, without losing the fold, and even in some cases semi-erect. A prick ear is bad. A big, thick ear, hanging flat to the head, or heavily coated with long hair, is the worst of faults. The ear should be soft and glossy, and like a mouse's coat to the touch, and the smaller it is the better. It should have no long coat or long fringe, but there is often a silky, silvery coat on the body of the ear and the tip. Whatever the general colour, the ears should be black or dark-coloured.

NECK AND SHOULDERS.—The neck should be long—that is, of the length that befits the greyhound character of the dog. An over-long neck is not necessary or desirable, for the dog is not required to stoop to his work like the greyhound, and it must be remembered that the mane, which every good specimen should have, detracts from the apparent length of the neck. Moreover, a deerhound requires a very strong neck to hold a stag. The nape of the neck should be very prominent where the head is

set on, and the throat should be clean cut at the angle, and prominent. The shoulders should be well sloped, the blades well back and not too much width between them. Loaded and straight shoulders are very bad faults.

STERN.—Should be tolerably long, tapering, and reaching to within an inch and a half off the ground, and about an inch and a half below the hocks. When the dog is still, dropped perfectly straight down, or curved. When in motion it should be curved when excited; in no case to be lifted out of the line of the back. It should be well covered with hair on the inside, thick and wiry, underside longer, and towards the end a slight fringe not objectionable. A curl or ring tail is very undesirable.

EYES.—Should be dark; generally they are dark-brown or hazel. A very light eye is not liked. The eye is moderately full, with a soft look in repose, but a keen, far-away look when the dog is roused. The rims of the eyelids should be black.

BODY.—The body and general formation is that of a greyhound of larger size and bone. Chest deep rather than broad, but not too narrow and flat-sided. The loin well-arched and drooping to the tail. A straight back is not desirable, this formation being unsuitable for going up hill, and very unsightly.

LEGS AND FEET.—The legs should be broad and flat, and good broad forearm and elbow being desirable. Fore legs, of course, as straight as possible. Feet close and compact, with well-arranged toes. The hind-quarters drooping, and as broad and powerful as possible, the hips being set wide apart. The hind legs should be well bent at the stifle, with great length from the hip to the hock, which should be broad and flat. Cow hocks, weak pasterns, straight stifles, and splay feet are very bad faults.

COAT.—The hair on the body, neck, and quarters should be harsh and wiry, and about 3 or 4 inches long; that on the head, breast, and belly is much softer. There should be a slight hairy fringe on the inside of the fore and hind legs, but nothing approaching the feather of a collie. The deerhound should be a shaggy dog, but not overcoated. A woolly coat is bad. Some good strains have a mixture of silky coat with the hard, which is preferable to a woolly coat; but the proper coat is a thick, close-lying, ragged coat—harsh or crisp to the touch.

COLOUR is much a matter of fancy, but there is no manner of doubt that the dark blue-grey is the most preferred. Next comes the darker and lighter greys or brindles, the darkest being generally preferred. Yellow and sandy red or red fawn, especially with black points—*i.e.*, ears and muzzles—are also held in equal estimation, this being the colour of the oldest known strains, the McNeil and Chesthill Menzies. White is condemned by all authorities, but a white chest and white toes, occurring as they do in a great many of the darkest-coloured dogs, are not so greatly objected to; but the less the better, as the deerhound is a self-coloured dog. A white blaze on the head, or a white collar, should entirely disqualify. In other cases, though passable, yet an attempt should be made to get rid of white markings. The less white the better, but a slight tip to the stern occurs in the best strains.

HEIGHT OF DOGS.—From 28 to 30 inches, or even more if there be symmetry, without coarseness, which is rare.

HEIGHT OF BITCHES.—From 26 inches upwards. There can be no objection to a bitch being large, unless too coarse, as even at her greatest height she does not approach that of the dog, and therefore could not have been too big for work, as over-big dogs are. Besides, a big bitch is good for breeding and keeping up the size.

WEIGHT.—From 85 to 105 lbs. in dogs, and from 65 to 80 lbs. in bitches.

(The above description was drawn up by Messrs. Hickman and R. Hood-Wright, arranged and finally approved at a meeting of the club, November 26, 1892, and endorsed at a meeting of the club at Shrewsbury, July 19, 1901.)

POINT VALUES—

| | |
|---|---|
| Length and shape of head | 10 |
| Ears | 6 |
| Beard and eyebrows | 3 |
| Eyes | 5 |
| Coat | 7 |
| Neck | 5 |
| Tail | 4 |
| Nails | 2 |
| Teeth | 5 |
| Height at shoulder | 10 |
| Substance and girth | 9 |
| Length and symmetry of body | 9 |
| Loin and hocks | 10 |
| Fore legs | 8 |
| Feet | 7 |
| Total | 100 |

The deerhound breed has been unfortunate in losing some very fine specimens recently. The dogs recognised as the best by my contributors are Champions *Selwood Dhouran*, *Forester*, *Ranald of the Mist*, and *Selwood Braie*. I selected the first-named for illustration, and Mr. Hood-Wright sent me a photograph specially taken of the fine old hero. As it happened, it was the last, for he died very soon after, full of age and honours.

Ch. *Selwood Dhouran*, born in June 1894, was bred by Mr. Hood-Wright, whose property he was, from Ch. *Swift* ex *Selwood Morag*, and was the direct descendant of eight champion dogs. He was a dark-steel brindle in colour, measured 32 inches at shoulder, and scaled 95 lbs. His owner describes him as having "a good, well-balanced head, small ears with no fringe, laid back

like a rat's ; dark, sloe-coloured eyes ; hard coat—plenty of it, with rather a rugged look. By no means a drawing-room dog. Perfect in front and in character. He was a litter brother to the equally celebrated bitch *Selwood Callack*, and between them they won thirty-seven championships, which is a record. *Dhouran* might have been a trifle more bent at the hocks, but he improved very much in this respect. In the photo the dog of course looks very old. During his show career he won eighteen championships, and over three hundred prizes, including specials and challenge plate of all sorts. He was the sire of Ch. *Forester* and many other well-known winners. He was passionately fond of horses, and an unequalled pal, and I can truly say of him I shall never look upon his like again."

## THE FOXHOUND

THE ideal dog of all time and all races—the canine personification of perfection—the glass of fashion and the mould of form in its symmetry, beauty, speed, stamina, scenting ability, and courage—that is the quality and character claimed for the foxhound by those who know and love it best. "A perfect living model," "Nimrod" called it sixty years ago, and yet considered that a century and a half before that there was no animal in the world resembling the modern foxhound, those used in that distant period being probably like the old Welsh harriers—rough-haired and strong, but of very far from sightly appearance. He attributed the development of the hound indirectly to the development of the horse. As the latter grew faster when it was improved by the blood of the racehorse, it became desirable to increase the speed of the hound, for "the old, low-scenting, plodding hounds, which ran in a string, so to speak, one following the other," could no longer live under new conditions, that required pace and dash. Wherefore the greatest care, attention, and skill were brought to bear on the breeding, development, and selection of the hound, for "a Master of Hounds thought it a reflection on his judgment if *one* hound in his pack was detected in a fault."

The sport of fox-hunting is of considerable antiquity.

*Findlow & Co., photo.*

FOXHOUND.

RINGDOVE. PLATE X.

Mention of hunting the fox with hounds is made in the fourteenth century, but the first pack, kept solely for this form of the chase, was probably the Charlton in Sussex, which existed in the latter quarter of the seventeenth century, although the honour is also claimed for the Leicester, and a pack hunted by an ancestor of Lord Arundel's in Hampshire and Wiltshire, which subsequently blossomed into the Meynell. To-day the hunting number of *The Field* advertises 164 packs in England, 25 in Ireland, and 10 in Scotland, and it is computed by competent authorities that over four millions sterling are annually expended, directly and indirectly, in the sport, and a hundred thousand of the finest bred horses engaged in it.

Although the most perfectly developed dog of the day, the foxhound owes nothing to the Kennel Club or its dog shows. It is as superior as royalty to those institutions, and even at the Kennel Club's own show an exhibit is something of the nature of a favour, to obtain which the authorities of Grafton Street had to pocket their pride and agree to bench hounds that coldly declined registration in their archives. The Peterborough Show is the one where the blue ribbon of the hound world is adjudged, and there, and there alone, you may see all that is best and most perfect in the hunting and working hound-world collected in emulation.

The foxhound requires, really, a book to itself, and has had many. Into a compilation like this it enters an angel unawares, to whom proper adoration cannot be paid. Indeed, I doubt if it can decently be included in the designation "dogs." A foxhound sire is a stallion hound, and to call it a dog, conventionally or accidentally, in the company of hunting hobbyists, is to damn yourself entirely. Wherefore I most willingly

let those specialists speak who are most conversant with the subject.

MR. HARDING COX.—There is no breed of dog or hound so true and level as the foxhound, or that maintains its type and quality so surely. Some masters have erred in their pursuit of abnormal bone, and thus encountered coarseness. I consider great good is done by local puppy shows, and Peterborough Hound Show is an institution. It would be a good thing if similar exhibitions were arranged for in remoter parts of the country, but judges should be employed who are not only experienced as regards the keeping and handling of hounds, but have the technical knowledge and the critical faculty of the acknowledged show-judge. The grand sport which is dependent on the foxhound places him on a pedestal; but his general character, as a member of the canine race, is only known and appreciated by those who have control of him. His nature is full of good possibilities, and his intelligence, as an individual, is far in advance of the average dog. A thousand anecdotes of the foxhound have been written, and as many more go unchronicled. Here is one showing the deep devotion which is often displayed by a pack that is hunted by the master.

When master of the O.B.H. I often had to bring my hounds back to kennel from afar. One day, after hunting, I had to proceed to London on a matter of urgency. As we were within reach of a convenient station, I instructed the kennel huntsman and whippers-in to take on the hounds, and trotted off. After proceeding for about a mile and a half I heard an awful clatter, whips cracking and rating behind, and up came the entire pack. On reaching me they jumped all over my hunter, and one bitch actually succeeded in landing on the saddle in front of me, overwhelming me with her tokens of affection. It was with the utmost difficulty that the hounds were turned from me, and each time I moved on they broke away from the hunt servants. There was nothing for it but to allow them to accompany me to the station. As soon as my train steamed off they trotted kindly away. They knew!

A story, I take it, that does as much credit to the master as to the hounds, and leaves me lamenting that I have not others from the same pen to adorn this article.

MR. ROBERT LEADBETTER (Master of the Old Berkeley West).—In the foxhound I would lay great importance on a powerful back and loins; the places hounds have to get over and through in a run, to a hound deficient in either of these points, would be impossible, or would take such an animal so long as to render him useless. The foxhound's thighs must be muscular and long; short from his hock to his foot; no galloping animal can be flat-sided if he is to have speed, as a hound must have. Flat-sided horses and hounds usually suffer from want of wind. Let his ribs be well sprung, then; let him be dead straight in front, with plenty of bone running right down to his feet, which must be round and close, with well-arched toes; let him carry his stern high, and for colour be the rich black and tan, with white or yellow pied, the former for preference; but a good hound is never a bad colour, as is said of a horse. A moderately long neck, and arched where it meets the head, which should be long, lean, and with keen, intelligent expression; eyes dark, ears small and well placed in the head; rounding the latter is fast going out of fashion. The fore legs are often flecked, which adds to a hound's charms. The best hound is he who is best in the field. Different countries require different hounds to show sport, of course. For instance, hounds from a grass country, where scent is usually good, if taken to a woodland, or country with much plough,—in other words, a cold-scenting country,—would overrun the line probably, as the scent would be different to the shires where they hunted. For a woodland country, or, in fact, any country, in which steady, persevering hounds are wanted, nothing can beat our English hounds crossed *once* with *pure* Welsh hounds. These will stick to a line and puzzle it out when an English hound will throw his head up. The English-Welsh hound can go on the grass, too, and is very fast.

I am furthermore beholden to Mr. Harold Tremayne, the well-known novelist and sporting writer, for the following contribution, penned at a time when he was particularly engaged, and far away from the hounds he loves so well, and has ridden after so often and so widely, for he can claim to have followed, on some occasion or other, no less than forty-two packs in the kingdom:—

Can a painter's brush or the most enthusiastic hound-lover's

pen do justice to the beauty, the intelligence, and the sagacity of the foxhound? They can? Then the writer frankly admits his is not the pen which should be requisitioned, and in doing so trusts to disarm criticism. The artist may describe on canvas one incident of the chase; he may depict a "find," "full cry," or "running for blood, with the hackles up"; but the whole description of a good run, from start to finish, no brush or pen can do thorough justice to. The broad effect can be obtained, certain details may be included, but the thousand and one little incidents of interest to the lover of the hound cannot necessarily be brought within the limits, or carried in its entirety in the mind's eye of the man or woman who has participated in such a field-day. It is the poet perhaps who has done most to immortalise the joys of the chase, and it is to his pen that we owe some of those thrilling descriptions of runs which "they talk about still with a thrill of pride." Who can read with unmoved feelings those stirring lines of Somerville's descriptive of the foxhound:—

> See there, with countenance blythe,
> And with a courtly grin, the fawning hound
> Salutes them cowering; his wide opening nose
> Upward he curls, and his large sloe-black eyes
> Melt in soft blandishments and humble joy:
> His glossy skin, or yellow pied or blue,
> In lights or shades, by Nature's pencil drawn,
> Reflects the various tints; his ears and legs
> Fleckt here and there in gay enamelled pride,
> Rival the speckled pard; his rush-grown tail
> O'er his broad back bends in an ample arch;
> On shoulders clean, upright and firm he stands,
> His round cat-feet, straight loins, and wide-spread thighs,
> And his low drooping chest, confess his speed,
> His strength, his wind, or on the steepy hill
> Or the extended plain; on every part
> So well proportioned to the nicer skill
> Of Phidias himself can't blame thy choice;
> Of such compose thy pack.

Compare Somerville's description of 1765 to Whyte-Melville's, and there is nothing to quibble over:—

> On the straightest of legs and the roundest of feet,
> With ribs like a frigate his timbers to meet,
> With a fashion, a fling, and a form so complete
> That to see him dance over the flags is a treat!
>
> . . . . . .

Though so handy to cast and so patient to stoop,
When his bristles are up you may swear its who-whoop!
And he'll dash at his fox like a hawk at her swoop,
And he carries the head marching home to his soup!

Here is no "dryasdust" catalogue description—no enumeration of numerical points of value; but here, tersely and thrillingly, are the points of the ideal foxhound.

A hundred years ago, when most of the forefathers of the present-day occupants of the show-bench were struggling in what we should call—to coin a phrase—mongreldom, the foxhound was an aristocrat with a lineage which left nothing to be desired—which permitted no doubt to be cast on it. For over 130 years Lord Leconfield's family has hunted the Sussex, while Lord Portman, Lord Eglinton, the Duke of Beaufort, the Duke of Buccleuch, and Sir Watkin Wynn are the names of a few men who for successive generations have represented, as the heads of their houses, sporting supporters of time-honoured family packs. Many of these packs had their own distinctive virtues, and "the race of Rutland and the nose of Yarborough" indicate two of the many received axioms of kennel creed.

Mr. Scarth Dixon, who, I know, from personal experience, has forgotten as much about hounds as the average man has ever learnt, and whose conversation, when in a reminiscent vein, is as full of information as a Dick Christian's might be, tells us in the *Sport of Kings* how, "forty years ago, except in a few packs, the questions of straightness of shoulder, feet and bone, were very little thought of. Even famous provincial packs were a very unlevel lot, and, to use the words of the famous Bramham Moor huntsman, Charles Treadwell, they were 'all uncles, and aunts, and cousins.' But now, all over the country, hounds are more level, straight hounds are to be found in every pack, and the result is that hounds wear better than they did years ago. Of what use, it may be asked, is a hound with the finest of noses if his shoulders are so upright that they give way in his first or second season?"

To-day the foxhound is bred with a main eye to speed, scenting, and staying powers, and he must be able to carry the line when behind him comes, like a fierce tornado or cavalry charge, the cream of the Leicestershire. He must be able to flash across grass land, when scent is breast high, with the speed of a racehorse. He must be able to follow his quarry across cold-scenting plough or fallow, to kill twenty miles from home, and perform the return journey to his kennels without undue fatigue. Such

an animal is the foxhound of to-day. His speed in the provinces may not be equal to that of his brother in the shires, but then, of course, it is not necessary. Where small woodlands abound, or where plough predominates, it stands to reason the pace cannot be so great as it is where the land is principally grass. But in every country there comes a day in the season when, with a straight-legged fox in front of them, hounds run far and hard. Then it is that pedigree tells its story, and when the final whoo-whoop goes up, the huntsman relates how *Blue Maid*, by *Javelin* out of *Beautiful*, held throughout the pride of place. When we pass across to look at *Blue Maid* we are struck by the muscular development of her body, the depth of her chest, the straightness of her limbs. As we note the well-sloped shoulders, the powerful back and loins, and the enormous length from hip to hock, the shortness from hock to foot, we cease to marvel at her premier place.

The popular idea is that the kennel must be the foxhound's home. Why it should be so it is difficult to say, for a more intelligent companion or better friend man could not desire. His voice alone makes him worthy of the friendship of home; a richer tongue of welcome no wanderer returning could desire. I remember one—a friend of eight years—who could do anything, from retrieving a rabbit or wounded bird to guarding the baby's cot,—not his proper duties truly,—not the avocative custom allotted him; but nevertheless they were included in his accomplishments soon after he had been cast from the pack because of lack of speed. However, it happened that he joined his friends of old time again; they ran hard that day, and as the keen wind cut my face I had the unexpected joy of feeling that I was somewhere about the right place. Away to the right—well ahead of me—was *Hector*, and if there were hounds in front of him there were as many behind when a good fox gave up his life. But these are reminiscences not wanted here, so I will put down my pen, and drink the old Oxford toast,

> Hounds stout and horses healthy,
> Earths well stopped and foxes plenty!

No dog is called upon to perform harder tasks than the foxhound, and probably none can excel it in the ability to do what is asked of it, or in staying power. Its working hours are frequently eight to ten; its work is mostly at a gallop, or what is perhaps even

harder, hunting thick coverts; and the end of its legitimate duties sees it oftentimes many miles away from its kennels, as the beginning has seen it travelling many miles to get to the scene of action. The feats of endurance credited to the foxhound are almost beyond belief, whilst their speed is a revelation. A mile in three minutes is what an average hound is supposed to be capable of accomplishing; and, for distance, runs of fifty miles and more have been recorded; whilst for individual courage we are told that Colonel

FOXHOUND (1803). *After Reinagle.*

Thornton's *Lounger* ran a fox for eighteen miles, single-handed, and killed it by himself.

The size of hounds varies almost as much as the number in the various packs spread over the country. Twenty-seven inches is the maximum and 18 inches the minimum, but the average is 23 to 24 inches for dog packs (the sexes are always separated and hunted by themselves), and a couple of inches less for the "ladies," as the bitches are generally termed. As for the numbers in the various packs, they range from 75 to 10 couples in the latest list. The foxhound is so far exempt from the cropping edict that he is allowed to have his ears "rounded,"—a very necessary

operation where thick coverts have to be faced, and close grown fences scrambled through. The pecuniary value of hounds varies a great deal; common drafts may be picked up at the annual auction sales at very low figures, sinking even to a sovereign for a couple. In 1884, Mr. Rawdon Lee tells us, 21 couples of the Haydon hounds were sold for 15 guineas; *per contra*, Squire Osbaldeston's famous pack, which he bought for 800 guineas in 1806, was sold for 6400 guineas in 1840. But there have been no prices like this paid in late years.

The following Standard of Points, published by the National Dog Club fifty years ago, affords an interesting comparison to the more modern description of the foxhound that follows it:—

The head should be light, very sensible, and at the same time full of dignity, with a certain amount of chop, and the forehead a little wrinkled; the neck long and clean, with no approach to dewlap or cravat; the ears set low, and lie close to the head; the shoulders should be long, and well sloped back; the chest deep and wide; the elbows in a straight line with the body; the fore legs quite straight—large in bone and well-clothed with muscle; the pasterns must be large, strong, and straight, without turning in or out; the feet round, and rather flat than arched, with the division between each toe just apparent; the sole of the foot hard and indurated. The back should be straight, wide and muscular, the loins strong and square, the back ribs deep, and the hindquarters powerful. The tail should be carried gaily, but not hooped or feathered at the end. In colour the foxhound should be, for choice, black, white and tan. When the colours blend the animal is said to be pied. The best pie colours are hare, badger, red and yellow. The coat should be dense, smooth, and glossy, though many a good foxhound is seen in a rough garment. Altogether the foxhound should be symmetrical—muscular, without fat—strong, active, and sagacious. It is only when we closely examine his limbs and feel his muscle that we can appreciate his strength and powers of speed; only when we contemplate his expressive head, large nose, well-widened nostrils, and his intelligent eye, that we can understand

his value; only when we see him at his best that we can appreciate his cast-forward and true hunting, the ease with which he recovers a scent, and the speed and endurance which enable him to find the fox, and hunt him to a kill.

The following is the modern description :—

## STANDARD OF POINTS OF THE FOXHOUND

HEAD.—Should be of full size, but by no means heavy. Brow pronounced, but not high or sharp. There must be good length and breadth, sufficient to give in the dog-hound a girth of fully 16 inches in front of the ears. The nose should be long and wide, with open nostrils. Ears set on low, and lying close to the cheek.

NECK.—Must be long and clean, without the slightest throatiness. It should taper nicely from the shoulders to the head, and the upper outline should be slightly curved.

SHOULDERS.—Should be long and well clothed with muscle without being heavy, especially at the points. They must be well sloped, and the true arm between the front and the elbow must be long and muscular, but free from fat or lumber.

CHEST AND RIBS.—The chest should girth over 30 inches in a 24-inch hound, and the back ribs be very deep.

BACK AND LOIN.—Must both be very muscular, running into each other without any contraction or nipping between them. The couples must be wide even to raggedness, and there should be the very slightest arch in the loin, so as to be scarcely perceptible.

HINDQUARTERS, or propellers, are required to be very strong, and, as endurance is of even more importance than speed, straight stifles are preferred to those much bent, as in the greyhound.

ELBOWS.—Set quite straight, and turned neither in nor out. They must be well let down by means of the long, true arm above mentioned.

LEGS AND FEET.—Every master of foxhounds insists on legs as straight as posts, and as strong,—size of bone at the ankles and stifles being specially regarded as all-important. The feet in all cases should be round and cat-like, with well-developed knuckles, and strong pads and nails are of the utmost importance.

COLOUR AND COAT.—Are not regarded as important, so long as the former is a hound-colour, and the latter is short, dense, hard, and glossy. Hound colours are black, tan and white, black and white, and the various "pies" compounded of white and the colour of the hare, badger, or yellow or tan. In some strains the blue mottle of the old southern hound is still preserved.

STERN.—Is gently arched, carried gaily over the back, and slightly fringed with hair below. The end should taper to a point.

SYMMETRY.—Is considerable, and what is called "quality" is highly regarded by all good judges.

WEIGHT.—Dog hounds, 70 to 80 lbs.; bitches, 60 to 70 lbs.

POINT VALUES—

| | |
|---|---|
| Head | 15 |
| Neck | 5 |
| Shoulders | 10 |
| Chest and back ribs | 10 |
| Back and loin | 10 |
| Hindquarters | 10 |
| Elbows | 5 |
| Legs and feet | 20 |
| Colour and coat | 5 |
| Stern | 5 |
| Symmetry | 5 |
| Total | 100 |

Another scale of point values which accompanies the first description given apportions them differently, viz.—Head, 15; neck, 5; shoulders, 20; back and loins, 20; fore legs, 10; hindquarters, 10; feet, 10; stern and coat, 5; colour and symmetry, 5—total, 100.

FOXHOUND (1850).

My illustration represents *Ringdove*, a hound belonging to the Old Berkeley West pack, of which Mr. Robert Leadbetter is the

master, and he has very kindly selected this typical specimen especially for this illustration. *Ringdove* was born in March 1900, and is by *Rattler* out of *Actress*, and was bred by Mr. A. Gilbey. She won the championship at the Kennel Club Show in 1903, whilst the same pack distinguished itself by supplying the winners of the second prize in dog-hounds, and the best couple of dog-hounds.

# THE GREYHOUND

AMONGST all the breeds of dog in the world none can establish its generic antiquity more clearly than the greyhound, and none was more widely distributed throughout the old world. We may almost take it that this particular species of dog is as old as the hare, and since it is almost certain that the hare issued out of the ark, it is equally probable that the greyhound did the same. I am not writing in a spirit of levity, but of logic. The monuments of Egypt reveal the fact that four thousand years ago and more the greyhound existed as a well-defined breed in the days of the Pharaohs, and that the sport of coursing was an established one. Assyrian antiquities yield similar evidence. Xenophon enjoyed the sport; Ovid sang of it in lines that have been often quoted; Herodotus tells how, when a favourite greyhound died, the usual custom of mourning—shaving the head—was performed by the bereaved family to whom the dog belonged; and Arrian wrote of the breed and its pursuits in his *Cynegetticus*.

Passing from these classic times to those of our own history, we find the greyhound associated with many British monarchs. Henry II., John, Edward III., Richard II., Henry IV., Henry VIII., Elizabeth and Charles I. are all specifically mentioned in written

*R. Broughton, photo.*

GREYHOUND.

*Ch.* PTERODACTYL.. PLATE XI.

records as having been practically greyhound fanciers. The dog was a favourite form of tribute, and often selected for inclusion in State gifts of honour, in the same way that horses were. As was natural, the peers followed the fashion of princes, and these dogs came to be accounted the privileged luxuries of the highest, and forbidden to the vulgar. It remained a very select dog until quite a recent period. A hawk on fist and a greyhound gamboling ahead were outward and visible signs of rank, reputation, respectability, and riches. There was a heavy tax levied on the dogs, and so recently as fifty years ago a license to keep one cost three times as much as it does to-day. Their mere possession conferred something of the distinction that a motor car does in this year of grace: it implied that the owner was of the select, and probably a landed proprietor. Even so late as the reign of William IV. no one with an income of less than £100 a year in landed property was allowed to course the hare.

A curious side-light on the breed is contained in a Government proclamation published at Sidney, New South Wales, exactly a hundred years ago, ordering the destruction of all dogs "except greyhounds and sheep-dogs," thus showing that they were amongst the first dogs to be exported to the Antipodes in the days when the white population of Australia numbered about as many thousands as you have fingers on one hand. "Down-under" is a grand place for coursing nowadays, and the kangaroo-hound is beholden to the greyhound for its ancestry.

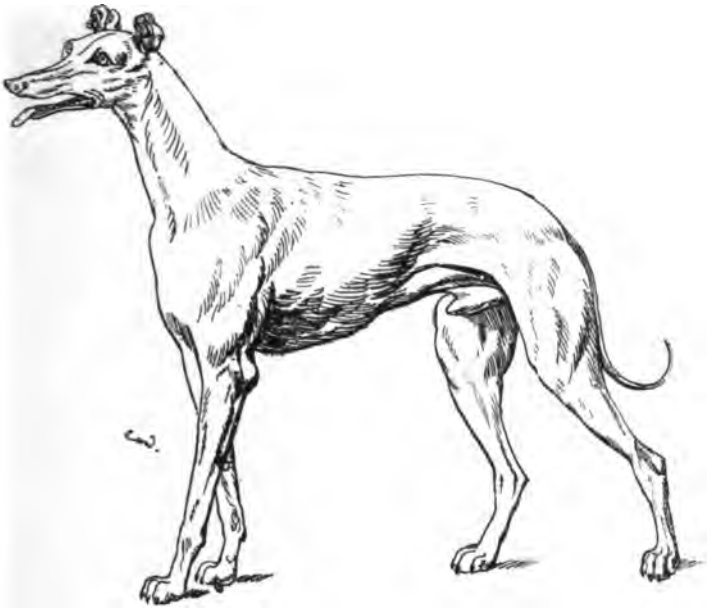
There are many varieties of the greyhound family—the English, Irish, Scotch, Russian, Turkish or Grecian, Italian, Persian, Afghan, Rampur, and Indian, not to mention others that are closely kin if they are not of the same kind. They vary according to their habitat

and the uses to which they are put, or have been diverted to, from the Irish greyhound or wolf-dog, gigantic and big of bone, to the shaggy, tufted-tailed Russian, the delicate, satin-skinned Italian, the Turkish, Persian, and Afghan, with their long fringed ears, the sleek Rampur variety, and the hairless one of Southern India. I can imagine nothing more interesting in its way than a show of greyhounds from all corners of the earth, including the allied breeds: the "gazehounds" or dogs that chase by sight, and catch with speed, and not with wearing down the quarry. But that is quite outside the scope of this article, which has only to do with our English greyhounds, which are perhaps the most familiar dog to the eye, and the most easily recognised by that large class of our fellow-subjects who do not know a St. Bernard from a mastiff, or even a beagle from an eagle!

Whilst the greyhound is very properly only recognised in connection with coursing, the fact remains that there is a show-bench greyhound, which is considered somewhat of an exotic by coursing-folk,—a Prince Florizel of greyhounds, so to speak,—who is valued more for his exquisite technical points and proportions than for his capabilities in the coursing field. And in a book like this, which treats more of the physical perfection of the dog than of its duties, it is of the show-bench variety that I must make particular mention, after dealing briefly with the coursing hound.

Coursing has always been a favourite pursuit, from the days of Queen Elizabeth more particularly, in whose reign the then Duke of Norfolk drew up a set of rules and regulations on which our modern ones are based. But it was not until 1776 that the sport was brought to an exact science, when Lord Orford estab-

lished the first coursing club at Swaffham, in Norfolk. He was a greyhound enthusiast, and in his endeavours to improve the breed tried every cross from a lurcher to an Italian greyhound, and finally a bulldog, from the progeny of which, after seven removes, he was able to get "the small ear, the rat tail, the fine, thin, silky coat,



GREYHOUND (1803). *After Reinagle.*

together with that innate courage which the high-bred greyhound should possess, preferring death to relinquishing the chase." When we look at our modern bulldog, and estimate his fleetness, it is difficult to realise that his blood runs in the veins of our Waterloo Cup winners! Lord Orford kept a kennel of fifty brace of greyhounds, and it was a strict rule of his never to draft a whelp until he had given it a fair

trial, and convinced himself he was not parting with a "dark dog." He met his death—if I say "appropriately enough," it is in a classic spirit—from a fall from his piebald pony, which he had insisted on mounting, although extremely ill, in order to witness what proved to be the victory of his famous bitch *Czarina* in a coursing match. No sooner was it decided than he fell from his saddle and expired. An old book says, "His lordship's memory is introduced as a toast at most coursing meetings as father and patron of the sport."

The aforesaid *Czarina*—a very famous hound in her day — was sold for 50 guineas after Lord Orford's death to the sporting Colonel Thornton, who was a great friend of the Prince Regent, and used to hunt his beagles over the Brighton downs, which no doubt provided many a good course, after a hare. The bitch's name is almost the first one recorded in the long roll of fliers in the field, which may be said to begin with herself and her son *Snowball* (a black dog, I am assured), and work up to such household names in these modern days as *Master M'Grath*, *Fullerton*, and *Fearless Footsteps*, which won the Waterloo Cup, the first three and the second four times. *Fullerton* was bought as a puppy for nearly £900, and won more than twice that amount in stakes for his master.

The National Coursing Club governs the coursing world. The 167 coursing meetings, many of which extend to two and three days, which took place last year in the United Kingdom, and gave sport on 255 days (Mr. J. W. Bourne informs me), were conducted under its rules and sanction. They find their apex at the annual meeting at Altcar, where the Waterloo Cup forms the blue ribbon of the leash, with the lesser distinctions of the Purse and Plate. The cup is com-

peted for by sixty-four subscribers at £25 each, matched against each other in pairs until the winner works out his salvation in his sixth or final course. The courses are decided by the following points:—

1. *Speed*—one, two, or three points, according to the superiority shown by one competitor over the other.

2. *The Go-by*, where one greyhound starts a clear length behind his opponent, and yet passes him, and gets a clear length ahead of him. If in a straight run this counts two points; if on the outer circle, three points.

3. *The Turn* is where the hare is brought round at not less than a right angle from her previous line—valued at one point.

4. *The Wrench* is where the hare is bent from her line at less than a right angle, and counts half a point.

5. *The Kill*, which counts two points, is estimated by whether the greyhound killing does so by its own superior dash and skill, or whether he picks the hare up through any little accidental circumstance, or she is turned into his mouth, as it were, by the opposing greyhound. It may actually occur that no points are awarded for a kill.

6. *The Trip* is an unsuccessful effort to kill, in which the hare is thrown off her legs, or where a greyhound catches her, but cannot hold his hare. It counts one point.

These are the broad rules of scoring, but there are innumerable provisos, and the award is in the sole discretion of the judge, who decides all courses upon one uniform principle—that the greyhound which does the most towards killing the hare, during the continuance of the course, is to be declared the winner. The actual kill is quite a minor consideration in a well-contested course between two clever greyhounds. And this is the unique charm of coursing.

Turning now to the contributions of my correspondents, I have received the following description of an "ideal" greyhound from Mr. James W. Bourne, well known in sporting literature as "Brigadier," and the editor of the *Greyhound Record*:—

It has always been, and no doubt always will be, a disputed point, what is the best size and weight for a greyhound; and the old saying that "a good big 'un must be better than a good little 'un" is no doubt correct to a certain extent. But often in trying to get size you lose quality, and a big, overgrown dog, although he will have a longer stride, cannot recover himself so quickly to repeat it as a smaller one. And I do not think it necessarily follows that the smaller dog, having to repeat his stroke oftener to cover the same ground, tires himself more than the bigger one. We have many instances of small dogs and bitches winning the best stakes—notably *Master M'Grath*, thrice winner of the Waterloo Cup, who was only about 53 lbs. weight, whilst *Coomassie*, who won the cup twice and never suffered defeat, scaled only 42 lbs. *Bab at the Bowster*, winner of the Cup and many other good stakes, and perhaps the best bitch that was ever slipped, was about 44 lbs. Many more instances of good little ones could be given, but comparatively few of very good big dogs, though big bitches are, as a rule, more successful than big dogs. *Selby* was the heaviest dog that ever won the Waterloo Cup, he being, according to the *Courser's Guide*, 75 lbs. *Fullerton* was some 10 lbs. lighter, and *Miss Glendyne*, who won the cup twice and the purse once, was 55 lbs.

My ideal of a greyhound for coursing should weigh from 60 to 62 lbs., or, if a bitch, 56 lbs. or a trifle over. The great essential is to have a good forequarter; perfect in head, neck, and shoulders, which should be oblique and muscular; well-muscled along the back, especially near the shoulder blades; good strong loins; well-sprung ribs with depth of chest; straight and strong fore legs with strong feet, but the toes should be close together, and the joints well up, a flat or sprawling foot being very objectionable; plenty of propelling power, and well-bent hocks behind. But the hindquarters are not so essential as the fore—as however well they may be developed behind, dogs never seem to have speed unless the forequarters are perfect.

The following are the critical comments and general

*E. Landor, photo.*

GREYHOUND.

*Ch.* TRUE TOKEN.

PLATE XII.

notes I have received on the type of the breed as it exists to-day :—

MR. HARDING COX.—The show and running types are very level, and require little to improve them. On the show-bench there is a tendency to pay too much respect to size, and amongst running greyhounds there is often too great a lack of bone and depth of brisket. Staying power is too often sacrificed to points of speed. There have been several Standards of Points drawn up, but there is little variation in these compilations. One very generally recognised is in the coursing volume of the Badmington Library, and as I was the author of it, I naturally agree with it. I love the greyhound for its antiquity and constancy to type; for its great beauty of balance, its striking symmetry, its exemplification of a perfect piece of living speed machinery, and its high-bred quality; and lastly, for the fascinating and exhilarating sport it affords in the coursing field.

MR. JAMES W. BOURNE ("Brigadier").—I am satisfied with type as far as greyhounds bred for public coursing. Those bred for the show-bench are more or less useless except for exhibiting, and more likely to deteriorate than improve the breed. In the values of points I do not think sufficient is given for the back, and too much to head and neck, and perhaps quarters. I should apportion them as follows:—Head and neck, 10; chest, barrel, and shoulders, 25; back, 20; quarters and loin, 25; legs and feet, 20—total, 100. To the true sportsman the delight in a greyhound is to see it turning and working a hare, and doing this in an artistic manner, losing as little ground as possible each time the hare doubles to avoid her pursuers; and it is always a satisfaction to see a good hare ultimately escape. This cleverness in working makes the sport very different to whippet racing, where speed is the only essential if the animal will go straight up the course. The satisfaction to the pot-hunter is, of course, in seeing the hare killed. But I, for one, agree with Arrian, who, eighteen hundred years ago, wrote: "Coursers—such at least as are true sportsmen—do not take their dogs out for the sake of catching a hare, but for the contest or sport of coursing, and are glad if the hare meets with an escape. If they see her fly to any thin brake for concealment, though they see her trembling and in the utmost distress, they will call off their dogs, and more particularly so when they have run well."

MISS MAUD MAY.—I think much has been done to try and improve the breed of greyhounds, but do we get the staying

power of fifty years ago? The point values ought to be—Head and neck, 15; back and loins, 15; quarters, 15; legs and feet, 20; chest and barrel, 10; shoulders, 10; symmetry, 15—total, 100. I delight in greyhounds as being the most courageous and most graceful of all dogs, and, when kindly treated, the most affectionate companions. The fascination exists in trying to get one sufficiently good-looking to beat all others on the show-bench, or fast enough to outstrip all others on the coursing field. Coursing with greyhounds has always been a favourite sport with ladies. Perhaps one of the most enthusiastic votaries of the sport was the lady whom Goodlake mentions in his work on coursing, published in 1828, who resided near Ashdown Park. She scarcely passed a day in the season without coursing on the downs the whole of the morning, sometimes walking a distance of 25 or 30 miles. A portion of the epitaph on her tomb, written by herself, runs as follows:—

Reader, if ever sport to thee was dear,
Drop on Ann Richard's tomb a tear;
Who, when alive, with piercing eye
Did many a timid hare descry;
Well skilled and practised in the art,
Sometimes to find and sometimes start.
All arts and sciences beside
This harebrained heroine did deride!

MRS. A. DEWÉ.—I am not satisfied with show-bench type. The present greyhound, often fancied in the ring, would be useless for the purpose for which it was intended—namely, coursing; although, of course, many excellent dogs are shown, and seem to have improved during the last year or two very much. I am dealing with the greyhound as one of our oldest sporting dogs, as well as a show one. It would be absolutely impossible for some of the greyhounds much fancied at the present time in the ring, with poor quarters, wheel (not arched) backs, flat sides with no heart room, and no muscle at the shoulder, to get to the end of a small, much less a big stake. Their long necks would not help them, for, as a matter of fact, some of the finest killers ever seen have had short necks. In studying the breed of a dog we should look for its aim, and not at "fancy type" (which we in the greyhound world do not recognise), set up by people who in all probability know nothing of the sport, and care less. I have always been very fond of greyhounds from my youth, and have bred them largely for twenty-one years with fair success. I have found them most interesting from a sporting point of view—very faithful, intelligent companions, and splendid watch-dogs.

MR. FRED. BOTTOMLEY and MR. CLEMENT HODGSON are both satisfied with the type of to-day. The former considers greyhound classes at shows would be much better patronised if there were more running classes, though he admits that entries have very much improved lately, and there was a record entry at Richmond, where Mr. Bottomley judged. Mr. Hodgson is in favour of a specialist club being started, which, he thinks, would tend to greatly improve the breed, and popularise it from the show-bench point of view. He considers them the truest and most faithful dogs.

In my humble experience of the breed I can testify to the courage as well as to the devoted affection of the greyhound, for the very pluckiest dog I ever had was of this variety. In a "bobbery" or scratch pack, which I kept in India for jackal coursing, amongst many divers canine elements was a gaunt brindle and white greyhound, born of parents imported from England, and, as the freight of a dog is £5, the parents must have been presumably worth more than their passage money. *Chris* (short for Christmas) was his name, and when I bought him to add speed to my pack I conceived he would not be up to the mark of tackling a jackal, so I purchased a Rampur hound, a much heavier animal, and altogether stronger and more savage. But *Chris*, as soon as he had been entered to the sport, proved himself by far the best dog of the two, and *Billy*, the Rampur, always yielded him the go-by when they were approaching their quarry. I should be sorry to say how many jackals *Chris* assisted in killing, doing the major part of the work, and on several occasions I have known him sally forth, when his keen eyes detected something from my verandah, to have a hunt on his own account, and kill a jackal to his own cheek. Amongst many plucky feats which he accomplished the finest was a battle royal with a huge jungle cat, a young leopard in miniature, which he

followed into a small cave or hole, where he had no room to turn, and fought in the dark, Billy standing respectfully at the entrance and encouraging him. Wild cats in many he killed—his proboscis was chronically swollen, so that his muzzle often looked more like a Great Dane's than a greyhound's, from the effects of these maulings in the face from poisonous fangs and claws; but no bull terrier could have tackled the cat in the cave more valiantly than he did, and I have never known a more remarkable deed performed by a non-fighting dog. His devotion was equal to his enterprise; he would follow me out snipe-shooting, though he hated wetting his feet, and I have seen him go into water after a wounded duck. The quaintest exhibition he ever made of himself was in a clumsy attempt to climb a tree after a squirrel; he got halfway up, and stuck, and set to work howling to be helped up! When other sport failed he would do a bit of mousing, or kill a scorpion or two—a trick many dogs learn in India, who crack them with their teeth, their lips tucked back, as neatly as may be. Unfortunately in the district I resided in there were no wolves, but from the big dog-jackals he manfully overcame I make no manner of doubt *Chris* would have had a go at a wolf. Whether he would have come out of it victor I cannot say, but this I can say—he would never have funked. It is years since I had him, but his memory is green, and I often find myself recalling his feats. He developed his sense of smell amongst other things, and would frequently put up game for me out shooting which he tracked to cover by scent alone.

There are many descriptions or Standards of Points of the greyhound, which may differ a little in a detail here or a detail there, but lay down the same general

rules. One of the most succinct is the famous one of Wynkyn de Werde, printer and poet, written in 1496, and certainly more quoted than any other dog description has ever been :—

Headed lyke a snake,
Neckyed lyke a drake,
Footed lyke a catte,
Tayled lyke a ratte,
Syded lyke a teme,
And chyned lyke a bream.

A greyhound conforming to this description would be considered a good one to-day. But in order to amplify it I append the fullest Standard of Points of the several I have compared :—

STANDARD OF POINTS OF THE GREYHOUND

HEAD.—Should be long and narrow, slightly widening at the back; low between the eyes; not cut away, however, or "dished," along the nose. Jaw lean and full-muscled.

EYES.—Bright, quick, full, and denoting animation.

EARS.—Small, and carried close, folded back; semi-prick when in animation.

TEETH.—White, strong, level, and of sufficient length to take and retain a firm hold.

NECK.—Length and pliability are of the greatest importance. A short neck will not only impede action but pace as well. It should be slightly arched, well muscled, but not enough to affect its flexibility and suppleness.

CHEST.—Should be deep and hatchet-shaped, and yet not too wide for the shoulders to play smoothly upon. It must have capacity to hold heart and lungs, and as width undoubtedly interferes with the movement and action of the forequarters, in depth only can the heart and lungs get free action.

BACK.—Should be broad and square, well arched, with a roll of muscle standing clear above each side of the spine. The length of the back between the shoulder and last rib should be rather more than between last rib and hip bone. The loins should not only be wide and strong but deep, with good measurement around.

TAIL.—Should be fine, long, tapering, and nicely curved; never ringed; not too coarse, though it may be heavy at the butt.

FOREQUARTERS.—Elbows straight, neither turned in nor out; the distance from the elbow to the knee should not be less than double the distance from knee to ground. Shoulders should be oblique, to allow the legs to be well thrust forward. Shoulders muscular, without being over-developed or loaded. Strong pastern joints, well stood upon.

FEET.—Compact, rather round than long; perfectly straight knuckles, well up; toes close, with long claws; soles thick and tough.

HINDQUARTERS.—Should be strong and wide across; the stifle well bent; legs set straight, with no tendency to cow-hock, medium well apart, and short from hock to ground, with plenty of strength below the hock. Muscles hard and firm, and unless they are large and powerful in haunches and thighs, both speed and endurance will be lacking. The hind feet should not be too round, nor toes too upright.

COLOUR.—Brindle, black, fawn, red, slate, blue, and these colours interspersed with white; coat should be neither coarse nor fine, but carry a good gloss.

POINT VALUES—

| | |
|---|---|
| Head and eyes | 10 |
| Neck | 15 |
| Chest and forequarters | 20 |
| Loin and back ribs | 15 |
| Hindquarters | 20 |
| Feet | 15 |
| Tail | 5 |
| Total | 100 |

Weight varies from 40 to 70 lbs., though well-known specimens have been known both under and over these limits.

## I have selected for illustration the show-bench champion dog *Pterodactyl*, and Ch. *True Token*.

Ch. *Pterodactyl*, the property of Mr. Clement Hodgson, was bred by Captain Johnson, by *Jim Crow* out of *Laughing Water*, and was whelped in March 1895. He stands 28 inches at shoulder, weighs 68 lbs., and is a black dog, with white breast and two white hind feet. His owner describes him as a fine upstanding hound, with strong, muscular body and limbs, built to go over rough country and for great staying power; wonderful round fore limbs, the very best of cat feet, low hocks, good length of tail, deep brisket, arched loins, and well tucked-up flank. Eyes dark brown, teeth perfectly level and well fitting, and nose black. He has won seven championships, and about 350 prizes of all sorts, and has sired some good whelps. He has also won several courses, but his fame in the field has been eclipsed by his triumphs on the show-bench.

Ch. *True Token*, the property of Mr. Harding Cox, was bred by Mr. Tom Wright, by *Penigant* out of *Brilliant Betty*. She was a brindle bitch, weighing 61 lbs. Her owner describes her as a most remarkable greyhound, combining great merit in the

coursing field with almost ideal show-bench form, and only once led to her hare (after having been run to a standstill in the previous course). She was not only very fast, but could stay for ever. Only she was a bad killer. She won the Peterborough Cup and the All-aged Stakes at the Newmarket champion meeting, as well as other important trophies. Her symmetry was lovely, and her quality wonderful. Exception has been taken to her flat ribs; but to this she owed her great turn of speed, for she had tremendous depth through the brisket, wonderful staying powers, and lovely flush shoulders. She was very seldom exhibited on the show-bench, but easily gained her championship title. Unfortunately she was not a breeder, and has left no progeny behind her.

# THE HARRIER

IN these modern days, when a hundred and twenty-two packs of harriers are listed in the official publication under such names as "Stud-Book Harriers," "Pure Harriers," "Harriers," "Southern Harriers," "Old English Harriers," "Welsh Harriers," and "Modern Harriers," not to mention such ramifications as "Cross-bred Harriers," "Harriers and Cross-bred," "Harrier and Beagle Cross," "Black and Tan and Old Southern," "Mixed Harriers," "Mostly Pure Harriers," "Harriers and Black and Tan," "Dwarf Foxhounds and Southern Cross," "Dwarf Foxhounds," and "Foxhounds," and when the heights of these various packs range from 17 to 23 inches, one is a little prone to wonder where the survival of the fittest comes in, and which is the Simon pure! And yet the harrier, or "harer," as it was sometimes anciently called, the *Canis Leverarius* of Dr. Caius, of blessed memory, is a very old and classic breed, and one with an ancestry such as many owners of modern breeds of dogs would give their ears to possess for their favourites, whilst here is this scion of five centuries playing skittles with its pedigree purity.

Doubts have been cast on that purity by many writers. Goldsmith would have us believe that the foxhound, the harrier, and the beagle were all one and

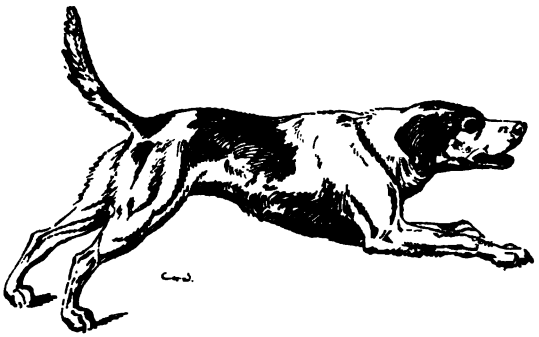
*From a Painting by Wm. Luker, jun.*

HARRIERS.

RECORD and RAKISH.

PLATE XIII.

the same, for he states that "although the bitch is covered but by one of them, in her litter are found puppies resembling all three." Beckford, a great authority, admits that his own famous pack was a cross-bred production, into which the composition of the slow-hunting southern hound entered. "Nimrod" wrote seventy years ago, "The modern harrier bears no greater resemblance to the one in use fifty years ago than the hunter of the present day to the one bestridden by our grandfathers. In fact, he is now nothing less



HARRIER (1803). *After Reinagle.*

than a foxhound in miniature, which it is the endeavour of all breeders to have him. Their qualities are as opposite as their form, the one (harriers) delighting to dwell upon the scent, the other a little inclined, perhaps, to the other extreme." Reinagle, a hundred years ago, makes the hound heavier, cloddier, and more compact than the foxhound, which it otherwise very much resembles, as may be seen from my illustration. The coarser head and thicker, shorter neck are especially noticeable. This was the animal, probably, concerning which "Nimrod" writes, "Before the old-fashioned harrier the hare had time to play all sorts of tricks, to double

on her foil, and so stain the ground that she often escaped by such means." Says an authority in the middle of the last century: "The true harrier is a dwarf foxhound, standing from 18 to 20 inches high. In 1842 the Prince Consort formed a fine and nearly perfect pack of harriers, and since then much attention has been given to the breed. The original harer was known as long ago as the reign of Henry V., when it was used for chasing deer and hunting hares. In Wales, at the present day, many packs of harriers are kept and prized." To Sir John Dashwood, who flourished rather less than a century ago, we owe a great improvement in the breed of harriers; he kept them for more than thirty years in Gloucestershire, hunting the staunch and stubborn hares of the Cotswolds. This pack was descended from a dwarf foxhound drafted from the Duke of Grafton's kennel, and named *Tyrant*. On Sir John's death his pack was purchased for 700 guineas by Lord Sondes, which is said to be a record price.

The modern harrier is a very different hound from the old-fashioned one, which quested long and hunted at a moderate speed, often scenting the hare to her form before he chased her out of it, and killed her after a plodding run that afforded plenty of sport. The harrier of to-day hunts much faster, it has more of the foxhound dash, and a run is often over in half an hour. Moreover, it is often used for hunting the stag or the wild deer, and does not refuse a chance at a fox, for neither of which pursuits would the harrier that was followed afoot have been any good. The scarcity of hares, owing to modern legislation, has had no little to do with diverting the hound from the single quarry it should, by nomenclature, chase. There are still masters of packs of harriers who pride themselves on the purity

of their strains in the kennels, but among these several have deserted the hare for the carted stag.

I have received the following description of an "ideal" harrier, and notes, from Lord Decies, which will I am sure, be read with great interest :—

LORD DECIES' IDEAL HARRIER.—My ideal harrier, if it could be bred, would be a 20 to 20½-inch hound, Belvoir tan colour, of foxhound type ; perhaps a bit shorter in the back and more cobby than the usually accepted foxhound stamp; with great bone, the straightest of legs, and the most cat-like feet ; deep in heart-room, well ribbed up, a dense coat and a good hound face and look-out. He must also be steady at his work, and full of perseverance, yet with any amount of drive and dash when necessary ; and must have a good note and music, such as one found in the old-fashioned harriers. Of course this is my ideal hound, to follow on horseback, not on foot.

Lord Decies goes on to observe—

I am satisfied that the stamp of the modern harrier, or dwarf foxhound, as he ought to be called, is very perfect and very symmetrical, and can hardly be improved on from a show point of view. At any Peterborough hound show you may see a lot of these beautiful little hounds, foxhound in colour, the fashionable Belvoir tan, on legs as straight as gun barrels, with the orthodox foxhound feet and joints. One of the best I have seen at Peterborough was Lord Hopetoun's *Churlish*. Many of the modern so-called harriers have no pure harrier blood in their veins, and are of the very finest foxhound strains in the country ; by process of time they have been manœuvred into a harrier Stud-Book, and we are told they are the harrier pure *par excellence*. This, of course, is an absolute mistake, if nothing worse ; these hounds should be called dwarf foxhounds, and the old-fashioned harriers should be called harriers. Amongst the small-sized modern harriers Mr. John Horsey has some charming hounds, and I have seen some exquisite little hounds exhibited by Mrs. Cheape.

The old-fashioned harrier is a grand hound, of various and curious colour, ranging from nearly pure white to black and tan, blue mottled, and all sorts of varieties of pied colours. This class of hound never stands on its feet like a dwarf foxhound, and it would not be typical of the breed if it did. I don't think I ever saw one that was not back at the knees, and I never saw

one with a foxhound foot; they are nearly always long hare-footed, but never with the twisted, arched toes seen on the modern dwarf foxhounds. Also they have not perfect necks and shoulders. They have, of course, no possible chance on the show-bench with small foxhounds, and ought to be classed separately. There are some very fine specimens in the Bexhill pack. The real old-fashioned harrier has the most lovely note and music, and can own the most delicate scent. Some of the hounds in the old hill packs in Cumberland, Westmoreland, and Wales can own the stale line of a fox or hare many hours after it has travelled past. Of course the old-fashioned hounds have not got the dash and speed of the dwarf foxhound, but they can work out a line, and kill a hare on a scent which the foxhound would perhaps not persevere with. On the other hand, they are an independent sort of a hound, which works best by itself, and not interfered with; they won't stand riding *at* by a big field. Wherefore in a country well stocked with hares, and with fine large pastures to gallop over, the modern dwarf foxhound is most useful, as he is more likely to give a brilliant thirty or forty minutes' gallop and drive his hare straight away. It is most enjoyable for the owner of the old-fashioned harriers to watch and see his pack work out and hunt hares down; but it is not so amusing for the field, who are burning for a gallop across country, and who don't know one hound from the other, and very likely care less. They want a gallop, and to suit their requirements the modern dwarf foxhound is far the most likely hound to please. He will race away if the scent is good, and go a cracker till he rolls puss over. I think you might almost term the modern harrier the Young Man's Hound, and the old harrier pure the Old Man's Hound; one serves youth best, the other delights age; one races, the other plods on with wonderful perseverance. I like the foxhounds myself, and cannot desert them; I only wish they had more music, and were not so flash and over the line. But when they have a scent it makes up for all their weaknesses, and you get a gallop to remember. I prefer to call a spade a spade—that is, a harrier a harrier, and a foxhound a foxhound. I never can understand why a class for dwarf foxhounds is not started at Peterborough. I think it would fill very well, and bring out some good hounds. There are very few packs of pure old-fashioned harriers in existence at present. The Bexhill, the Penistone, Sir John Amory's, The Lyme (I believe now done away with), and a few others. Most of the packs in the country have now gone for the foxhound blood, and it is only a matter of time for the old-

fashioned harrier to die completely out, and its place to be filled by the small foxhound.

As regards hound shows, when well managed they are capital institutions, but when, as is often the case, they are got up by people who don't understand them, they are most annoying and vexatious entertainments. I always think that a great mistake is made in making hunt servants wear hunt clothes, boots, and breeches in the summer at shows. The dress is quite out of keeping with the surroundings, and most unseasonable. The huntsmen look much better in their white kennel coats, and much more comfortable. Another point which is always overlooked is that it is much better to have two judging rings—one for dogs, and another for bitches. The different sexes will show themselves much better, and not drive their huntsman frantic in his endeavours to make them keep up their heads, and not slough about, snuffing in the grass or on the floor. Never have loose boards placed on the ground for the hounds to stand on and show their legs and feet; the hounds are always more or less afraid of them. The cost of a small piece of ground cemented or ashphalted for the purpose is slight, and much more satisfactory; the hounds will trot fearlessly on to it, and show themselves much better. As regards judges, as a general rule it is most advisable to have, in addition to amateurs, a professional huntsman to assist in the judging. Some amateurs are very good, some are very bad, and some are hopeless. I have noticed the professionals make fewer mistakes, and weed out the bad ones from the ring at once, saving hours of time, and they are much quicker and more punctual.

MR. HAROLD TREMAYNE.—The question of what a harrier is can now be answered in a satisfactory manner; but until the foundation of the Peterborough Show it is doubtful whether anything like a consensus of opinion could have been obtained. At the first Peterborough Show a very mixed crew indeed were forthcoming—a couple of huge, blue-mottled hounds from the Penistone Hunt tying with a couple of the same sort from the Holcombe kennels. At that show there were also the ordinary harrier, pure bred foxhounds, and foxhound and harrier cross. As a matter of fact foxhound blood is predominant in the harrier. This is only natural; and were it not that speed is of greater importance in the foxhound than in the harrier, there is no reason why the hound which hunts the fox should not hunt the hare, and *vice versa*. Many packs consist of dwarf foxhounds, the only difficulty being that when bred from they are apt to run too large

in size. Harriers that are kept to their own game should not exceed 19 inches in height. Whilst it may be taken for granted that all harriers have a large amount of foxhound blood in them, the chief objection to the dwarf foxhound is that he has too much dash. When, in March 1891, the Association of Masters of Harriers and Beagles was formed, it was decided to form a Stud-Book for harriers. This was done, and every pack which chose to enter was permitted to do so. The modern harrier is after all but a creation of modern times ; and, whilst it is recognised as a distinct breed, the most jealous hare-hunter cannot fail to remember the debt owing to the foxhound, who in the

HARRIER (1850).

past—as he will in many cases in the future—sent his dwarf specimens to hunt the hare and his giant progeny to hunt the stag.

The Standard of Points of the harrier conforms to that of the foxhound, and the same scale of point values is given by some authorities. The chief distinguishing characteristic is in the height, which should not exceed 19 inches, and may be as low as 16. The harrier is more cobby that the foxhound, rather thicker in the skull, and finer in the muzzle, whilst it

is not the custom to round the ears. The coat is sometimes longer than in the bigger breed, and the old-fashioned type is not immaculately straight in front, nor should it have cat feet, as Lord Decies points out.

My illustration is the reproduction in half-tone of an oil-painting by Mr. William Luker (jun.) of *Record* and *Rakish*, the property of Lord Decies, who describes them as a nice couple of hounds of the foxhound type of harrier, and their fault is that they are a trifle on the large size. They have not often been beaten when shown together as a couple at shows. Lord Decies adds: "Messrs. Bowen and Taylor, joint-masters of the harriers at Bishop Hartford, have a beautiful little bitch, *Produce*, which can and has beaten *Record* and *Rakish*, and I can always enjoy seeing such a beautiful bitch win."

## THE OTTERHOUND

OTTER-HUNTING is one of the oldest English sports, and at one time enjoyed royal patronage. King John is reputed to have kept his "otter dogges"; and William Twice, who was grand huntsman to the second Edward, at the beginning of the fourteenth century, has left us an interesting description of the different kinds of game hunted in his day, which includes "Beasts for hunting"—namely, the bear, the harte, the wolfe, the hare, and the wild boar; "Beasts of the chase"—namely, the buck, the duck, the fox, the martin, and the roe; and, lastly, "Beasts of bad odour"—to wit, the badger, the wild cat, the weasel, the stoat the polecat, and the otter. King Edward II. had a round dozen of otterhounds, and a master to direct them, to whom he paid the not over-munificent salary of thirteen pence a month, with certain perquisites.

Notwithstanding its inferential antiquity in history, it is difficult to diagnose the precise pedigree of the modern otterhound. One authority states it is a breed derived from "a cross between a bloodhound and a southern hound, at once fierce enough to face the savage creature he hunts, and courageous enough and patient to do the huntsman's bidding. To the courage of a bulldog he must add the sagacity of the pointer, the speed of the foxhound, the constancy of the poodle,

*J. & J. Brown, photo.*

OTTERHOUND.

*Ch.* BACHELOR.

PLATE XIV.

the cunning of the sheep-dog, and the endurance of the Newfoundland." In addition, "he must be ready to stand wet and cold, to hunt by sight as well as by scent, and to be a thorough sporting dog—hard, wiry, grave, steady, and obedient." Others trace the descent of the otterhound to a cross between the Welsh harrier and the old southern hound. Again, a dash of terrier blood is insisted on, whilst some, in a waggish spirit, suggest the most impossible composite parts. That the modern hound is a survival of the ancient one does not appear to have suggested itself—at least I can find no mention of such a theory.

The truth is, I suspect, that many other dogs and hounds which were not "otterhounds" were drafted into the work of hunting the otter; indeed, it is stated in so many words that "any dog that will take readily to the water, and fight bravely against his fierce enemy, is employed by the sportsmen." In modern times fox-hounds and terriers are used, and thus the pack becomes a conglomerate one to the eye, not confined to the rough-haired variety, which is technically associated with the name of "otterhound."

In this connection I may mention my own limited experience of otter-hunting, which occurred in the Punjab. I was out wild-duck shooting, and came across some hunting gipsies, with their "bobbery" pack. Surely never was there such an assortment collected together since Noah stepped out of the ark! Dogs of pariah type predominated, but there were others of greyhound, hunting hound, terrier and bulldog suggestion, and several local species. And devil a one of them was ever fed, but had to catch its own dinner, or go foraging for it. The scene was a low valley at the foot of the Sewalics, where a sluggish river flowed oozily through a vast miniature forest of tall rushes;

herein were hogdeer and otter to be found, the latter accounted of the greater value because their pelts are eagerly bought by the wealthier natives for their curative properties. Into the rushes went the pack, helter-skelter, greyhounds taking to the water like retrievers, and bulldogs galloping like whippets. It is wonderful what sheer hunger will teach a dog! The gipsies lined up silently outside the rushes with sticks and stones, and imitated the call of the otter. In and out, like mungooses in a rotten thatch, scurried the "hounds," giving tongue in the vernacular. Suddenly there was a special crash of music, and an earthquake waving of the rushes in a certain far centre. In rushed the gipsies; but they were too late. By the time they reached the spot the otter was eaten up. But, for bustle and hustle, that ten minutes in the rushes was the finest thing you can imagine, and my only regret was that there was nothing to see—not even the otter after he was accounted for! And the way that bobbery pack got larruped! You see the otter's skin was worth 6s. 8d.—a month's good salary to an Indian gipsy.

If I have lugged in this naïve experience it is merely to indicate that any sort of hound will hunt the otter, as I suppose any sort of dog, with sporting instincts, will hunt any quarry it can see or smell,—as, for instance, my old greyhound, who tried to climb a tree after a squirrel; but this is neither here nor there, and rather trifling with my subject. Let me relieve this levity by quoting Somerville on hunting the otter. Had he left us as good a pen-picture of the hound as of the hunt in his day, I should have been better pleased.

> See! The bold hound has seized him! Down they sink,
> Together lost; but soon shall he repent
> His rash assault.

See! There escaped he flies,
Half drowned, and clambers up the slippery bank,
With ooze and blood distained. Of all the brutes,
Whether by Nature formed, or by long use,
This artful diver best can bear the want
Of vital air. Unequal is the fight
Beneath the whelming element; yet there
He lives not long, but respiration needs
At proper intervals. Again he vents;
Again the crowd attack. The spear has pierced
His neck; the crimson waves confess the wound.
Fixed is the bearded lance, unwelcome guest,
Where'er he flies; with him it sinks beneath,
With him it mounts, sure guide to every foe.
Inly he groans; nor can his tender wound
Bear the cold stream. Lo! To yon sedgy bank
He creeps disconsolate; his numerous foes
Surround him, hound and men. Pierced thro' and thro',
On pointed spears they lift him high in air,
Wriggling he hangs, and grins, and bites in vain.
Bid the loud horn in gaily warbling strains
Proclaim the felon's fate. He dies! He dies!

"Nimrod," the prince of sporting writers, gives us a companion picture to this in prose. "Hunting the otter," he writes, "was a sport much thought of in England, chiefly perhaps for the great value set upon fresh-water fish. The system is this: The sportsmen go on each side of the river, beating the banks and sedges with the hounds. If there be an otter near, his 'seal' (foot) is soon traced on the shore, and when found he is attacked by the sportsmen with spears, when he 'vents,'—that is, comes to the surface of the water to breathe. If he be not found by the river's side, it is conjectured he is gone to 'couch' inland, for he will occasionally go some distance from his river to feed. He is traced by the foot as the deer is; and when found, and wounded in the water, makes directly for the shore, where he maintains an obstinate defence. He bites most severely, and does not readily quit his hold; on the contrary, if he seizes a dog in the water he will dive with him to the bottom of the river,

and never yield to him while he has life. This sport is still pursued in the few fenny and watery districts that now remain in England (1840), and has for a long time been confined principally to those parts where, from local circumstances, the other more noble and exhilarating distinctions of the chase cannot be indulged in. There were formerly three established classes of hunting in Great Britain; and although the struggle for superiority has ended in favour of that of the fox, hunting the stag or buck claims precedence of the hare, the hare of the fox, but the otter, perhaps, of all." "Nimrod" mentions an otter killed at Leominster in 1804, which weighed 34½ lbs., and was supposed to have been eight years old, and to have killed a ton of fish annually for the last five years.

To complete the picture, here is the account of a spirited hunt that blessed the Buck's Otterhounds in September 1903. It may be incidentally mentioned that the use of the spear is now tabooed. I extract this from the *Field*:—

On Thursday, the 10th, the meet of the Bucks Otterhounds was at Ipsley, near Redditch, to draw the river Arrow. Hounds were first of all tried up-stream, and struck a drag at once. But soon it ran out in that direction. On returning the strong osier bed above Ipsley was tried. This is very thick, and it was some minutes before a tremendous burst of music proclaimed that an otter was very near the hounds. They soon drove him into the river, and what proved to be the toughest hunt of the season began. The otter never tried to go very far up-stream, knowing that beyond the road-bridge the water was shallow, but continued to dodge the hounds up and down in the deep stretch between the mill and the road, where, also, there were plenty of tree roots to take refuge in. In spite of these advantages he was not allowed to rest for long at a time, but was hustled up and down by the hounds, who were much hindered by a large and unruly crowd. The otter, getting desperate as time went on, made several attempts to rush the floodgates, and charged right through a mob of 200 people, not one of whom dared to stop

him, into the river below. Hounds soon followed, but the banks were very high and thick, and they could not locate their otter again, and besides, they were quite tired out. Our game deserved to escape, and it is to be hoped he will live to fight again, though he was handled very roughly by two or three of the hounds, who, however, could not hold him. This hunt lasted from ten o'clock in the morning to four in the afternoon.

Descriptions like these give an indication of the hard work the otterhound is required to do. In these modern times we find many packs of hounds—to be fairly exact, a couple of dozen—engaged in the sport, which lasts from April to September, and is, of course, followed on foot. The *Field* devotes many columns during the season to descriptions of the doings of the various hunts, and although "Nimrod" rather sneers at it, I cannot, after the perusal of several spirited days' work, come to any conclusion but that it is a manly, and in every way worthy species of sport. The otter is more abundant than the ordinary reader would guess it to be. Mr. Hill's pack in Radnorshire killed over 700 of these fish-poachers in the twenty-one years ending 1890, accounting for sixty-two in one season. Westmoreland and Cumberland are noted for otters, and the Carlisle Hunt for killing them. Devonshire is another famous otter county, but the otterhounds used there are nearly all foxhounds. The Dumfriesshire Otter Hunt in Scotland owns one of the very purest packs in the kingdom, and the Bucks, the Buckley, and the Hawkstone have all great reputations in this form of sport. The latest pack to be established is one to hunt the streams in Kent and Sussex.

Mr. Wilson Davidson, of the Dumfriesshire Hunt, has supplied me with the following description of an otterhound, and as his pack is composed entirely of the pure variety, and specimens from it have done more

winning on the bench than any other strain, it may be accepted as an authoritative description of expert opinion as to what the hound should be like:—

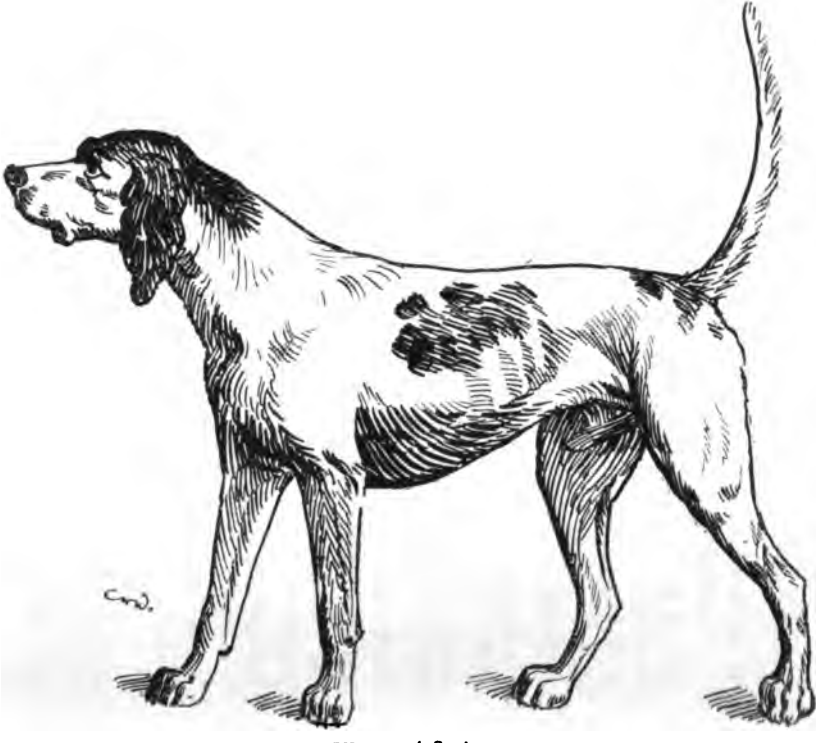
> The head long, with powerful jaws; skull broad, but not peaked, as in the bloodhound; ears long and pendulous, set on low and lying close to the cheek, and covered with hair of a silky texture. Coat hard and crispy, with hair not too long, and an undercoat of a short, close, woolly nature. Legs must be straight, with plenty of bone; feet round and well arched; chest deep, with plenty of lung room; the hindquarters strong and powerful; the stern slightly curved, carried gaily, and nicely tapered.

I may supplement this description by adding that the dog-hound ought to stand about 25 inches at shoulder, and the bitch 23, and weigh respectively from 60 to 75 and from 50 to 65 lbs. The colours are very varied; mixed dun, tan, grey, yellow, fawn and blue, and white. The eyes should be intelligent, and the hound dignified in carriage; the build generally that of a foxhound, strong and well put together, for probably no hound is called on to sustain a greater tax on its endurance. In an old book I find it stated that the muzzle should be grizzle, and the head carry large, loose flews or dewlaps; but these points seem to have been dispensed with in the modern type. Above and beyond all an otterhound should possess a musical voice, for which the true breed is as famous as is the bloodhound.

Mr. Wilson Davidson is of opinion that the modern breed could be considerably improved if otter hunts would keep their packs pure, and stick to the old, rough-coated variety. It was only at a quite recent period that the foxhound was pressed into the sport, which, in Devonshire, it has practically come to monopolise. But each species of hound, says Mr. Davidson, should be kept for its own quarry—an opinion which such authorities as "Nimrod" and Mr. Rawdon Lee

share, whilst Mr. Beckford writes on the same point, "Hounds cannot be perfect unless used to one scent, and to one style of hunting." Mr. Davidson admires the otterhound for its perfection of build, its beautiful note, its skill in working out a cold drag, and for the unequalled sport it gives in following and killing one of the most difficult of all quarries to come at.

I am fortunate in being able to illustrate this section with a portrait of Ch. *Bachelor*, belonging to the Dumfriesshire Otter Hunt, by whom he was bred. *Bachelor* is grizzled blue and tan in colour, stands 24½ inches at shoulder, and weighs 76 lbs. He is by *Barrister*, out of *Duchess*, and was born in April 1898. Mr. Wilson Davidson describes him as "a very typical hound, with great bone, perfect in feet and legs, and magnificent in head and ears. His coat is a little too open, perhaps. He has plenty of stamina and dash; drags, swims, and marks an otter equal to any other hound. He is, unfortunately, standing in an unnatural position in the photograph, which, consequently, does not do him justice." *Bachelor* carried off the championship at the Kennel Club's Show in 1903.



STAGHOUND (1803). *After Reinagle*

## THE STAGHOUND

IT is not uncommon for some confusion to exist with regard to the term staghound, by which nomenclature the impression of the breed of deerhounds is often conveyed. In the section dealing with the latter variety, Mr. Hood-Wright, so long and successfully associated with deerhounds, expresses his preference for the name of "Scottish staghound." On the other hand, there is a famous pack of staghounds which goes by the title of "New Forest Deerhounds." Again, by way of further variation, the late Royal pack was always called the "Royal Buckhounds," whilst, to make confusion worse confounded, Staghounds, New Forest Deerhounds, and Buckhounds are, or are said to be, one and all foxhounds, described technically and generically.

The truth is, the modern staghound is only a staghound in that it is used for hunting the stag; many of the packs of to-day are filled up with overgrown hounds drafted from foxhound kennels, and you breed foxhounds to produce staghounds. The foxhound used for fox-hunting runs from 23 to 24 inches at the shoulder; the Royal buckhounds were 24 inches, the bitch pack being only 22½ inches. The Devon and Somerset staghounds (entirely drafted from various foxhound kennels) rise to 26 inches at the shoulder, and are the tallest of all the staghound packs. The

tallest foxhound on record was a monster of 27 inches, whelped in the Warwickshire pack. Many masters of staghounds buy, never breed, their own hounds. All of which rather tends to cut away the ground from under an article like this, and leaves me in the awkward

OLD SOUTHERN HOUND (1803). *After Reinagle.*

position of having to produce the play, *sans* the character, of Hamlet.

Charles James Apperley, better known as "Nimrod," who flourished in the first four decades of the last century, and was a most popular and voluminous sporting writer, in his work on *The Horse and the Hound* has some interesting and valuable observations to make about the staghound of his times, as follows :—

The English staghound, now nearly gone, is little more than a mongrel bloodhound; at least it is reasonable to conclude that the cross which produced him was from the English bloodhound, with some lighter animal of a similar species (perhaps a greyhound or a lurcher) approximating his form. It is asserted in the *Sportsman's Cabinet*, published in 1803, that the staghound was "originally an improved cross between the old English deep-tongued, southern hound and the fleeter foxhound, grafted upon the basis of what was formerly called, and better known by the appellation of bloodhound." But this assertion must have been made without proper reflection, for, in the first place, a cross between the deep-tongued southern hound and the foxhound will not produce an animal nearly so large and strong as the staghound; and secondly, the staghound was known in England long before the foxhound was made use of, or, indeed, before there was an animal at all resembling the one which is now known by that term. We confess we regret the prospect of the total extinction of the English staghound, which, although his form possessed little of that symmetry we now see in the English foxhound, was a majestic animal of its kind, and possessed the property, peculiar alone to the bloodhound and itself, of unerringly tracing the scent he was laid upon, amongst a hundred others.

The illustration to this text (in the third edition of *The Horse and the Hound*) presents one of those exasperating anomalies which crop up so constantly to confront and confound the researcher after old canine types, for it is nothing less that a very racy-looking deerhound—an animal which on the face of it hunted by sight and not by scent, with greyhound ears, body, and neck, and the alert look of the breed. I cannot help thinking this ghastly satire on the letter-press must have been the unhappy thought of some thrifty editor wishing to find use for a spare block. Happily Reinagle has left us an excellent likeness of the staghound as he existed a hundred years ago, and I reproduce an outline copy of it, drawn with the fidelity in which Mr. Desmond excels. Comparing this with Reinagle's engravings of other hounds (*Sagaces*) it would appear to be an animal of about 28 inches at

the shoulder, and I think that "Nimrod's" description of a "majestic hound" may very fairly be applied to it. In another work published in the middle of the nineteenth century, with illustrations by Harrison Weir, there is an illustration of a staghound and a foxhound standing side by side, the former being certainly 4 inches taller at the shoulder than the latter; and the artist being one we can thoroughly trust in animal portraiture, his representation is interesting as confirming Reinagle's standard of height, though I could have wished Harrison Weir's hound had not curled its tail over its back quite so aggressively. But the lesson to be learnt from these two illustrations of the early and middle of last century, given us by two eminent artists, is that the staghound of our grandfather's times was in its outward conformation a foxhound, perhaps a little more leggy, certainly taller, and with his ears unrounded. He remains pretty much the same to-day.

Neither of these hounds answers to "Nimrod's" description, and I fear the breed he describes is extinct. The which is a pity, for the old English staghound was an ancient and historic animal, and one we can ill spare from our canine category. He is intimately associated with our history from the time of Alfred the Great; associated with the sport of kings and nobles; followed in the field by many an English monarch; favoured by Queen Elizabeth, and patronised by Queen Victoria in the evolution, if not in the actual type of hound. There are writers who ally it to the old Talbot hound, and one rather sanguinely asserts Shakespeare gave a matchless description of the old English breed in the well-known passage in *Midsummer-Night's Dream*:—

> My hounds are bred out of the Spartan kind,
> So flew'd, so sanded; and their heads are hung
> With ears that sweep away the morning dew;

Crook-knee'd, and dew-lapp'd like Thessalian bulls;
Slow in pursuit, but match'd in mouth like bells,
Each under each. A cry more tuneable
Was never holla'd to, nor cheer'd with horn.

It would be interesting to know from what strain of hounds the bard took his model for a description which, save in the crook knees, might avail for our modern bloodhounds.

The endurance of the ancient staghound is crystallised in many stirring legends. One feat is related, where two hounds made a famous chase from Wingfield Park in Northumberland to Annan in Scotland and back—a distance of more than a hundred miles.

For some cause or other the whole pack was at fault soon after the stag started, and the chase was taken up and continued by only a couple of hounds. After being seen at Red Kirks, near Annan in Scotland, the stag doubled and returned to Wingfield Park, closely pursued by the hounds. Almost exhausted, the poor animal made a last expiring effort, leapt the wall of the park, and immediately expired. One of the hounds pursued it to the wall, but being unable to get over, laid down and died; the other was found dead with fatigue at a short distance. The distance run has been variously computed, but by the circuitous route taken, it could not have been less than a hundred miles. The horns of the stag, the largest ever seen in that part of the country, were placed against a tree in the park, and the tree was afterwards known as the Hart's-horn tree.

In comparatively speaking modern times the staghound has emulated these feats. In 1822 a stag turned out before the Earl of Derby's pack at Hayes Common, covered fifty miles in four hours before it was finally set up at Speldhurst in Kent. Tradition adds that twenty horses died in the field—an equine holocaust which is a little beyond the legitimate bounds credibility places on sporting achievements.

However, these reminiscences can only shed a vicarious glamour on the modern staghound, between

whom and the staghound of the past there remains nothing in common. The disbandonment of the Royal buckhounds, on the accession of his present Majesty, broke a connecting link between the sport of to-day and the sport of long ago. Perhaps better so, for the sport of long ago was the chase of the wild deer, and that of to-day, with few exceptions, is that of the carted stag—not a very ennobling pursuit, and one which the force of public opinion was able to terminate in the case of the Royal pack. Albeit those who have studied the subject are wont to declare there is no cruelty in the pastime, except in fertile imaginations.

The following extract about stag-hunting from "Nimrod's" book is so informatory that I give it in its entirety :—

A kind of technological dictionary is required to almost all sports of flood and field. Thus, in deer-hunting, what we fox-hunters call the "ball" or "pad" of a fox on foot, they term the "slot." We "drag up" to a fox, they "draw on the slot," or "walk up a deer." We "find" or "unkennel" a fox, they "rouse" or "unharbour" a deer. "A fox runs up and down a cover," a deer "beats" up or down. With us a fox is "headed" (turned or driven from his point), with them a deer is "blanched." We say a fox "stops or hangs" in cover in a run, they say their game "sinks." We "recover" our fox, they "fresh find" their deer. We "run into" (kill) our fox, they "set up" the deer. The fox goes "a-clicketing," the deer goes "to rut." The fox is "worried," the deer is "broken up." The fox "barks," the deer 'bellows." The "billiting" (excrement) of the one is termed the "feument" or "feumishing" of the other. The "brush" of the fox is the "single" of the deer. The "mask" of the fox is the "snout or nose" of the deer. The view, the tally-ho, the foil, and the who-whoop are common, I believe, to all; but "currant jelly" and "sweet sauce" are not in the fox-hunter's vocabulary.

There are at the present day eighteen packs of staghounds in England and three in Ireland. Perhaps the most famous are the Devon and Somerset (50 couples), which hunt the wild deer, and Lord de

Rothschild's (30 couples), and the Ward Union (30 couples), the latter in Ireland, which hunt the carted stag. The New Forest deerhounds claim a long ancestry, and are a strikingly handsome strain. The season for stag-hunting begins on the 12th of August for stags, and at the end of October it is permissible to hunt hinds, and the season ends in April.

The points of the modern staghound are the same as those of the foxhound; the tallest pack in the kingdom is the Devon and Somerset, which ranges from 25 to 26 inches. This pack has killed as many as a hundred stags and hinds in a season, and is probably the only one left to provide the sport in the form our forefathers enjoyed it, which was second to none of all the forms of chase across country.

## THE IRISH WOLF-HOUND

THE Irish wolf-hound (anciently called the wolf-dog, Irish grehound, or Irish greyhound) enjoys the distinction of being the largest hunting dog in the United Kingdom, and suffers the inconvenience of having nothing to hunt. Its ancestry has been the cause of considerable argument and dispute of recent years, but that it is a "resuscitated" breed admits of no doubt. The honour of its restoration to a place of dignity in the roll of British dogs is due to a few enthusiasts, who set themselves to work to "recover" the practically extinct breed—notably Captain Graham of Dursley. It was in 1863 that he first turned his attention to the matter, instituted inquiries, made researches, and satisfied himself that three distinct strains of the ancient hound, though much deteriorated, still existed—namely, those of Sir J. Power of Kilfane, Mr. Baker of Ballytobin, and Mr. Mahoney of Dromore. From bitches obtained from two of these kennels, from a cross between the deerhound and the Great Dane, from a dash of borzoi blood (the noted *Karotai*), and from an out-cross with a huge shaggy dog, stated to be a Thibetan mastiff (though I doubt the description being correct, having seen a photograph of the dog in question), the modern breed has been literally built up.

*R. Parsons, photo.*

IRISH WOLF-HOUNDS.

WOLFE TONE and COTSWOLD. PLATE XV.

Sentiment goes a long way in the dog-world, and Irish wolf-hound devotees have more than once displayed indignation at the sneers of the detractors of their favourites, when they have described the modern breed as "faked up." But the best and most crushing retort to such criticism is the hound itself. "If it had emanated from under a gooseberry bush," said a lover of the breed to me, "I should not love and admire it less; and I could not love and admire it more if it traced its pedigree from the hound that issued from the ark!" To paraphrase Shakespeare, in an argument of this sort, "The hound's the thing," and, speaking personally, its "ancient and historic" derivation, and its "Royal associations" do not appeal to me a tithe so directly as the sight of such noble, commanding creatures as are seen on the modern show-bench.

At the same time there is much in the history of the Irish wolf-hound to fascinate the fancier, and to make the wish father to the thought, "Our hounds are descended from those of Cæsar's days." Possibly—nay probably, they are, through a thin streak of female descent; and if Royal pedigrees are contingent on such a delicate link to connect them with the demigods and heroes of the early ages (as we know they are), I think the Irish wolf-hound fancier may take comfort from that precedent. A pedigree is a priceless thing, especially in the dog-world; but few dog-pedigrees go back fifty years. And if you want one to go back for a thousand years you must be imbued with something of the spirit of Lootfullah, a Mohammedan gentleman who published his autobiography some forty years ago, and prefaced it with his family tree, which was carried back to Adam by way of Mohammed and Noah,—all in perfect seriousness, as those who refer to that very original and entertaining book may convince themselves.

For the purposes of this section I will assume that the modern Irish wolf-hound, through the Kilfane and Ballytobin strains, indisputably has, if it cannot actually trace, a connection with the historic hounds of the dimmest past. Which brings me to the history of the wolf-hound. That it existed in the times of the Roman dominion is asserted by many writers. Our old friend Strabo, who must have been something of a dog-fancier in his classic way, describes them as having been used in the chase by the Celtic and Pictish nations, and that specimens were imported into Gaul. There are references in other classic authors to dogs, both of war (mastiffs) and of the chase (wolf-hounds), that were taken to Rome to display their prowess in the gladiatorial ring. We can only surmise what these breeds were, but then the surmising field is limited, and collateral evidence and facts point to the two species named. In the Welsh laws of the period there is a reference to the Irish greyhound, or *Canis Graius Hibernicus*, as it was styled. And all writers on the subject of dogs agree that there was a shaggy-coated greyhound in existence, and greatly prized in Ireland, in the earliest days of the history of that composite kingdom.

Coming to later times, we have ample evidence, not only of the breed itself but of the esteem in which it was held, and the uses to which it was put. In the middle of the sixteenth century a writer describes it as "similar in shape to a greyhound, bigger than a mastiff, and tractable as a spaniel." In 1562 the Irish chieftain, Shane O'Neill, forwarded a couple to Queen Elizabeth through the Earl of Leicester; a little later another couple were sent to the Secretary of State, Sir Charles Walsingham, "one black and one white." Coming to the seventeenth century, we find

that no less a personage than the Great Mogul desired Sir Thomas Roe, the British Ambassador, to obtain for him some Irish greyhounds. It is a far cry from Dublin to Delhi, and one wonders how that potentate came to hear of the breed. In Cromwell's days the Irish wolf-hound was legislated for, as the following edict by the Protector, dated "Kilkenny, April 27, 1652," proves: "Declaration against transporting wolfe dogges.—Forasmuch as we are credibly informed that wolves do much increase and destroy many cattle in several parts of this dominion, and that some of the enemy's party, who have laid down their arms and have liberty to go beyond the seas, and others do attempt to carry away several such great dogges as are commonly called wolfe dogges, whereby the breed of them, which are useful for destroying wolves, would, if not prevented, speedily suffer decay, these are therefore to prohibit all persons whatsoever from exporting any of the said dogges out of this dominion."

Twenty years later Evelyn, in his Diary, mentions what he saw at an entertainment at a bear-garden, where, in a dog-fight, "the Irish wolf-hound was a tall greyhound, a stately creature indeed, and did beat a cruel mastiff. The bulldogs did exceedingly well, but the Irish wolf-dog exceeded."

Cromwell's protection policy seems to have succeeded, for the last wolf was killed in Co. Kerry in the year 1710. But what was protection against the wolf was not protection for the dog, and thereafter, its occupation gone, the Irish wolf-hound sank rapidly into decadence. Nor is this to be wondered at, when we come to consider the enormous quantity of food these huge creatures eat, rendering them far too expensive to keep when they had ceased to be necessary Their history from 1710 to 1870 is all on the down grade,

until it verged almost into the mists of absolute extinction. By the end of the eighteenth century it had become "extremely rare," and certainly degenerated in size. Lord Altamont is reputed to have had eight Irish wolf-hounds in 1780, "tall, noble dogs, the largest of whom measured 5 feet 1 inch from the nose to the end of the tail, which itself was 1 foot 5 inches

IRISH WOLF-HOUND (1803). *After Reinagle.*

long. Its height from the top of the shoulder to the ground was 2 feet 4½ inches." The modern fancier would not look at such a specimen nowadays, when it is categorically recommended that anything below 31 inches at shoulder should be debarred from competition, and when 7 feet from nose to tip of tail is a measurement often exceeded. But it is specially noted of Lord Altamont's dogs that they had "de-

generated in size." Goldsmith, in his *Animated Nature*, published in 1774, says: "The Irish wolf-dog is now almost quite worn away, and very rarely to be met with in Ireland. The wolves being destroyed, the dogs also are wearing away, as if Nature means to blot out the species when they had no longer any service to perform." In 1803 Reinagle depicted an Irish greyhound, and the splendid animal he has left us is one that any modern fancier might be proud to breed, as may be seen from the outline sketch of it which I reproduce. About this time the wolf-dog frequently figures in Encyclopædias and books dealing with dogs, as being an interesting illustration of a fast dying race. By the middle of the nineteenth century we read, "No pure, unmixed specimens now exist, even in Ireland," and with that the colophon might have been set to the history of the breed, but for the endeavours of Captain Graham, Major Garnier, and others, who rescued it almost at the last moment from an extinction as complete as that of the greak auk. To a most interesting brochure compiled by Captain Graham I am indebted for much of the information contained in the foregoing paragraphs.

To the Irish Kennel Club belongs the distinction of having been courageous enough to establish a class for the resuscitated breed at its show in 1879, thus affording scope for the somewhat crude specimens that were then being fashioned on the traditional lines. One prize was awarded to a cross-breed between a Great Dane and a deerhound—a dog that stood 33 inches at the shoulder, and displayed "much wolf-hound character"; the other prizes went to dogs that had a strain of the "old blood" in them. From this date forward the breed progressed steadily. In 1886 the Irish Wolf-hound Club was founded, and soon afterwards the

Kennel Club granted the breed recognition and registration. In the 'Nineties it was awarded a tolerable space on the stage of the dog-showing world, and, what was more to the point, some very fine hounds were born, such as Ch. *O'Leary*, Ch. *Dermot Astore*, Ch. *Wargrave*, Ch. *Ballyhooly*, and others, who have engraved their mark deep on the modern race. But it was reserved for the twentieth century to see the breed literally galvanised by one of those curious waves of enthusiasm which sometimes arise to push forward a good cause. One or two fortuitous circumstances conduced to this sudden popularity, but the wonderful "levelling up" of the type of the breed had probably more to do with it than anything else. The beautiful hounds that had been gradually perfected out of the chaos of the past, with care, veneration, and devotion, pleaded their own cause. In 1902 it is no exaggeration to say that Irish wolf-hounds were one of the principal attractions at Cruft's, the Dublin, the Richmond, and the Kennel Club Shows; and at the latter, where Captain Graham judged the breed he had done so much to save from extinction, he was complimented with a bench of thirty-six as fine hounds as have ever been brought together in the history of dog-showing. Throughout the year the consensus of expert opinion was unanimous that the breed had come through its difficulties (the greatest of which was to eliminate the Great Dane character and the smooth coat which that cross introduced), and was on the threshold of breeding true to type. This really wonderful result has been due to the patience of a few ardent fanciers in the past, who have found worthy successors in Mr. Crisp, of Playford Hall; Mrs. Gerard, of Malpas (the owner of that splendid bitch *Cheevra*, of whose death I hear with great regret as I write these lines, for she was the

dam of more living Irish wolf-hounds, including several championship winners, than any other half a dozen bitches); Mr. Martin, of Dublin, to whom the native land of the wolf-hound owes a deep debt; and last, though by no means least, Major Shewell, of Cotswold, Cheltenham, who has brought together or bred a pack of Irish wolf-hounds that is a prize-bench in itself, and in whose magnificent kennels it may be safely predicted the breed will work out its own further perfection.

Before I proceed to quote the contributions I have received upon this breed, it may not be uninteresting to give a few notes I gathered during my short personal acquaintance with it. And more particularly in regard to breeding, of which I have had some experience, and in which, besides the difficulties of rearing whelps, there arises one danger which calls for attention. The whole of the present breed of show Irish wolf-hounds are practically descended from two sires, *Brian II.* and *Bran II.* Of the thirty-six specimens exhibited at the Kennel Club Show of 1902, eighteen were in the first, second, or third generation descended from *Brian II.*, sixteen from *Bran II.*, and only two from other sources, which could not be described as clear out-crosses. In 1903 there were twenty-five hounds benched; of these seventeen were descended from *Brian II.*, five from *Bran II.*, and of the remaining three, two were of the former sire's blood on the dam's side, and the third was not a distinct out-cross. So much for the figures relating to the sires. Of the sixty-one dams of the exhibits at these shows I cannot speak with equal confidence, but twenty-five at least were bitches of the strain of *Brian II.* or *Bran II.*, and I doubt not several more, with whose pedigree I am unacquainted. I think these figures prove that an out-cross is highly essential in this breed, and in my own

mind I have little doubt that the awful mortality that exterminates whelps in a wholesale way is in some measure due to in-breeding. The loss of a whole litter is no unusual occurrence—the survival of four whelps a very rare one. Although the wolf-hound is generally a magnificently strong, hardy, and healthy animal when it is grown up, it is one of the most delicate of dogs in its growing stage, and personally, from my knowledge of the holocausts that have followed distemper contracted at dog shows, I would never exhibit a youngster under twelve months old. To my certain knowledge distemper contracted at shows within the last two years was the direct cause of a dozen as good hounds as any one could sorrow to see lost to a breed that cannot afford diminution in its numbers.

The following records from my kennel book, relating to the "weights and measures" of growing wolf-hound whelps, may be relied on as accurate, and are informatory :—

In the most successful litter I reared, by *Wolfe Tone* ex *Kyltra*, of which nine out of ten survived, the aggregate weight of the litter at birth was 23½ lbs., and the weekly weights of the best and weakliest pups as follows :—

| | At birth. lbs. | 1 week. lbs. | 2 weeks. lbs. | 3 weeks. lbs. | 4 weeks. lbs. | 5 weeks. lbs. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Best . . | 3¼ | 5 | 7 | 8½ | 12 | 16 |
| Worst . . | 2¼ | 3¾ | 5¾ | 7¼ | 10 | 13 |

I attributed the stamina of this litter to the fact that the dam was a perfect out-cross, she being by a dog unrelated in pedigree to *Wolfe Tone* for several generations, and a deerhound bitch. Of another litter of eleven born about the same time, and treated in the same way as regards foster-mothers and food, every single one died.

The following tables show the growth of a couple of Irish wolf-hounds, month by month, from weaning to a year old :—

| | Wolfe Tone. | | | Wolfe O'Brien. | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Age. | Height. | Girth. | Weight. | Height. | Girth. | Weight. |
| Months. | Inches. | Inches. | lbs. | Inches. | Inches. | lbs. |
| 2 | 16 | ... | 28 | 15 | ... | 30 |
| 3 | 22 | 25½ | 47 | 19 | 24½ | 41 |
| 4 | 25 | 29 | 64 | 22½ | 27 | 53 |
| 5 | 27 | 31 | 75 | 24 | 28 | 64 |
| 6 | 28½ | 33 | 90 | 25½ | 30½ | 87 |
| 7 | 30 | 33½ | 96 | 27½ | 32½ | 97 |
| 8 | 31 | 34 | 103 | 28¾ | 34 | 107 |
| 9 | 31¾ | 34½ | 107 | 29¾ | 35 | 117 |
| 10 | 32¾ | 35 | 112 | 30¼ | 36 | 125 |
| 11 | 32¾ | 35½ | 116 | 30¾ | 36½ | 129 |
| 12 | 33¼ | 36 | 120 | 31 | 37 | 133 |
| 2 years | 33¾ | 38 | 133 | 31¾ | 37½ | 136 |

The comparative "pauses in the proceedings" of *Wolfe Tone* at six months old and of *Wolfe O'Brien* at four months were caused by attacks of distemper; the 23 lbs. the latter dog put on between his fifth and sixth month was a record in my kennel. The heaviest dog on the wolf-hound bench was the late *Finn*, belonging to Mr. Walter Williams, weighing 148 lbs.; the tallest hound was one exhibited at the Richmond show, which measured, it was said,—and he looked it,—35½ inches; unfortunately he was not perfect otherwise. The tallest champion hound I have seen, and probably the best, is *Cotswold*, the property of Major Shewell, and the subject of my illustration; he can touch the scale at 34½ inches, I believe. There are several dogs measuring over 33 inches, but the clear 34 is very difficult to obtain, and 32 inches is about the average of the breed. *Princess Patricia of Connaught* and *Juno-of-the-Fen*—both 33 inches at least—are the tallest bitches.

I now come to my contributors' notes, which read as follows:—

CAPTAIN GRAHAM.—Some of the best specimens of the present day are satisfactory, but, generally speaking, there is a want of size and substance. Also evidence of the Great Dane cross is too pronounced in some specimens.

MR. GERARD.—I am satisfied with type, but I consider that action and all-round good movement are not sufficiently taken into consideration.

MR. I. W. EVERETT.—The type is rapidly getting more regular. Great care should be exercised in selecting sound, big-boned, typical sires (not necessarily tall), and raking, long dams with body and limb formation of the best. There does not seem to be anything like sufficient importance attached to heart and lung room, and if no decided move is made in that direction, there can be little chance of improvement in that almost vital point. I think we should also take a very much firmer stand on the subject of sound and well formed legs, feet, loins, and hindquarters generally, as the breed is essentially a galloping one, and derives most of its speed from its hindquarters. In point values more should be given to sound-limbed dogs (both sexes), as there are both dogs and bitches, well up in the prize lists, that, in my opinion, owing to unsoundness and bad formation of limbs, should not rightly be there. Dogs of this breed should be made to both walk and trot when being judged, which unfortunately is very often omitted.

MR. WALTER ALLEN.—In my opinion the chief fault is the want of uniformity in type, which time will remedy. Some of the best specimens are lacking in coat, and breeders should give this point more thought when selecting a sire.

MR. WALTER WILLIAMS.—There are too many types. Owners should endeavour to breed from sires and dams of the approved type only.

MISS AITCHESON.—I think the breed still lacks uniformity,—so many are either too shaggy, or show too much of the Great Dane in type and coat.

OTHER FANCIERS (who desire to remain incognito).—I consider the question of type a difficult one to answer, as it varies so much under different judges. I think we now go in too much for size, instead of insisting on soundness and freedom in action. Dogs with crooked legs are awarded prizes, and half-bred boarhounds, with short bodies and out at elbows are

passed, if above the average height.—I am not quite satisfied with type. I think a great deal more attention should be paid to shape of head, which is too often inclined to be Roman or snipey; and the ears require much more careful attention. The ear is a great beauty when it is small and carried lightly. In point values I do not think enough is given for legs and hindquarters, which are very bad in some winners.—Heavy leathers spoil a lot of hounds, and the greyhound carriage of the ear is the exception, not the rule. Many of the hindquarters are as bad as in St. Bernards. But the youngsters coming on are a distinct improvement upon the older generation, and when judges have the courage to put down some of the patriarchs, and put up some of the young 'uns that are much their superiors, we shall have breeders going to these young dogs, and the logical result will be an improvement in the pups born. The judge who gives a championship to an unsound dog probably does more harm to a breed at large than he can be conscious of. It is hopeless to expect the average exhibitor and breeder to go to the dog that suits his bitch; he *must* go to a champion if he wants to sell his stock, and he does so in the face of the miserable wastrels that are often produced by such unions. There are many better dogs for breeding than some of those at stud, and not until breeders are guided solely by soundness in the first instance (of course avoiding mongrels) will the breed assume the place those who love it ought to desire to see it in—namely, amongst the sound breeds of dogs. Breeders should go steady for a generation or two, and get the breed sound before they seek to elaborate points. And for height, I consider that the struggle after it is the curse of the breed at present. The taller some of them grow, the more wobbly they become.

Personally, I am inclined to think some of the above strictures a little hard, though I agree with the last writer that, as a breed, the present generation is superior to the last one. But with regard to diversity in type, to which so many make reference, I consider that the Irish wolf-hound has reached a development wherein there is less diversity than in most other breeds, and that you could parade the leading specimens in a pack, and create a conviction in the eyes of people, not expert, that they were not only all of one breed, but that they

were unlike any other breed. The sternness of the judicial note has been pleasantly counterbalanced by the sympathy of the remarks that apply to the breed from the dog-lover's rather than the dog-fancier's point of view. Here everything is in its favour, as witness: "The Irish wolf-hound combines the best characteristics of all the large breeds of dogs. He is gentle, forgiving, plucky, most faithful, gifted with a wonderful memory, whilst his keen sense of humour and almost human intelligence makes him a perfect companion and guard." —"The noblest dogs living. They are the largest, and at the same time combine size with gracefulness. Most affectionate and quiet, with perfect tempers, they are perfect gentlemen in every sense of the word."—"Why do I prefer it to other breeds? Because I am an Irishwoman, and an Irishwoman cannot but love the Irish hound."—"They extort admiration, confer distinction, are invaluable to a lady unprotected, and cannot be stolen."—"To me the great fascination of the Irish wolf-hound lies in the nobleness both of his disposition and appearance, and his absolute single-mindedness in his devotion to his one human friend, though courteous, even friendly, to all well-behaved specimens of humanity. He is courageous, but not quarrelsome, with nothing small or mean about him; marvellously intelligent in understanding the speech and actions of so-called superior beings (ourselves), and has a very keen sense of humour. A perfect companion, faithfully shadowing, yet never obtrusive. His good traits are innumerable, and I don't know a bad one. His natural sense of honour and obedience render him, with all his strength and keenness, very easy to control."—"The great pleasure in keeping this breed is, to my mind, derived from its beautiful and majestic appearance, and its affectionate and companionable disposition. Usually peaceable, it

can acquit itself with courage, and in foreign countries to which it has been exported, has proved itself a fine hunting hound."—"The king of all dogs, and in disposition there is absolutely no other to equal it."—"It has always been my idea of the grandest dog known to mankind for almost every reason, and has had the whole of my attention for the past forty years."

It has been objected to the modern wolf-hound that he is not sufficiently agile and active. This is certainly true of him in the show-ring, where he has not room to stretch himself. But those intimately acquainted with the breed are perfectly satisfied with his speed, jumping powers, and endurance. Major Shewell's pack (he tells me) put up an inconsequent buck, irrelevantly browsing in the suburbs of Cheltenham, whither it had strayed from a contiguous park. The hounds sighted it, ran it close for 6 miles, when it had the bad taste to disappear over some park palings about 8 feet high, which obstructed the hounds that had taken several five-barred gates in their stride. Mrs. Gerard mentions an instance when her life was probably saved by her beautiful hound *Rajah of Kidnal* and his brother *Rashleigh*. During a country walk one day she was attacked and thrown to the ground by a savage sow; her hounds immediately tackled it, and made it very sorry for itself, whilst their mistress effected her escape. *Finn*, the heaviest dog in the breed, was a demon to cats and rats, and old *Bran II.* was a famous ratter, and killed one in his kennel the evening before his death. I do not instance these as acts of prowess, but as acts requiring agility. My own dogs accounted for many a rabbit, and I never observed any lack of activity in them; but the quick turning incident to such chases is risky, and I know of two hounds which met their death by overreaching themselves in awk-

ward twists and breaking their backs. *Wolfe O'Brien*, although he hated being weighed, was so consumed with a sense of duty that he always elevated himself, with an injured look on his face, on the luggage-weighing platforms at the railway stations he visited, long after his first year's monthly record was completed. More than once I have missed him, only to find him glued to a machine, appealing to the crowd around to weigh him quick and get it over. He was an adept at shamming, and conscious, I am sure, that indisposition led to better fare; for he often used to pretend to be feeling "a bit off," with a view to a treat for dinner. The reference above to *Rajah of Kidnal* reminds me that I ought to mention he was an Irish wolfhound presented to the Irish Guards by the Irish Wolf-hound Club, as a regimental pet, at the Kennel Club Show of 1902. He now proudly precedes the regiment on the march, and has an uncommonly good time of it.

In the following description I have attempted to depict

AN IDEAL IRISH WOLF-HOUND.—He was born, christened "Wolfe Terror," and died at the early age of six months. Many tears were shed over his premature departure to that other land, wherein I trust he will experience the consolation so touchingly predicted by Luther in the apostrophe—"Be comforted, little dog! Thou, too, in the Resurrection shalt have a golden tail!"

I used to picture what he would grow into; it is all cut and dried in my recollection. As a puppy he was as near perfection as he could be, and dowered so often with the following good qualities in anticipation, that I can recall them as if they had been facts.

He was that puppy "Perfection," which, alas, we have nearly all bred and buried, loved and lost once in our kennel experience. A giant in size ("gentle when stroked, fierce when provoked"—as the old couplet runs), standing almost 36 inches at the shoulder, measuring 8 feet from the nose to the tip of the tail, girthing 40 inches, and weighing 150 lbs.

His colour was the grey of a thunder-cloud, shading to black

on the ears and paws, and with a black muzzle. There was not so much as a white hair on chest or toes. His coat was strong, harsh, and rather rough, the hair about three inches in length, but longer on the hackles, which, when erected, gave the suggestion of a mane, adding greatly to his apparent height and imposing figure.

His eyebrows were long and shaggy, curving over the eyes, but without obstructing the vision ; he had a workmanlike beard, not too long ; and plentiful strong hair on his muzzle. His nose was large, and his mouth and teeth positively alarming when he yawned.

His eyes were dark, and in his gentler moods moist and tender in expression. His ears were small and velvety in substance ; in repose carried neatly tucked back, close to the head ; but cocked elegantly and well above it when alert. Their different carriage, combined with the flash of his eye and the uprearing of his hackles, absolutely changed him in an instant from a lamb-like to a lion-like being.

His head (which had a comical similarity to an Irish terrier's when he was a baby) was over 14 inches long, but that was because he was so tall. The head must bear artistic proportion to the body, and a 14-inch head on a 32-inch dog would be altogether too exaggerated. Wolfe Terror's head had not the slightest suspicion of dome or peak ; the skull followed the configuration, on a massive scale, of a deerhound's ; the stop was sufficiently indicated to avoid plainness ; the muzzle very full and strong. In this particular he was totally free from snipeyness, and from the weakness of the borzoi, the coarseness of the Great Dane, and the lack-power of the deerhound.

His neck was muscular, moderately long, well-arched, and his throat clean. His body long, the ribs grandly sprung, the belly tucked up, but not so much as to suggest slenderness, yet enough to announce agility. His tail was very long—it could touch the ground when perpendicular—well-covered with hair, yet avoiding suspicion of feather, set rather high than low, and carried slightly below the level of his back, with a half-twist and the extremity curving out to the left.

His shoulders sloped like a race-horse's, and were well-supplied with muscle ; his chest was very deep, and his breast presented a broad front. His loins were strong, full of substance and slightly arched. Everywhere he avoided straight lines and angles, and revelled in curves that suggested grace, suppleness, and harmony of anatomy.

His fore legs were straight, well set under, big-boned, and parallel as Corinthian pillars; his hind legs carried a long second thigh, with sound, set-apart hocks, well let down, which, taken all round, was perhaps his strongest point in comparison with the breed as it exists to-day, for it is inclined to be woodeny behind. The muscles on the fore arm (which girthed 10 inches) and the thighs were as hard as a prize-fighter's. The feet were compact, and tending to cat-like, but the springy pastern carried this rigidity off. The strong, curved nails were black and even. His bone all over was enormous, and he was well-furnished, but did not carry an ounce of fat.

His trot was a long swinging gait, and he had a sideways action, as though he meant business with his shoulder if you got in his way. He did not lift his legs high, but accomplished a grand stride; extended at full gallop, he travelled low to the ground, but, when necessity required, negotiated a five-barred gate like a Grand National winner.

His temperament was courteous, yet reserved to strangers. He must have a formal introduction; this accorded, he behaved benignly, but with a proper dignity. In private life he possessed every good quality of a gentleman, and the acutest sense of humour. Nothing delighted him more than a little private joke with any one he was fond of. Pin pricks had no effect upon him, and he equally ignored the snap of a small dog, the scratch of a cat defending her kittens from intrusion, and the irritating remarks of small, facetious village boys.

But when duty called—which it too seldom did for his taste in our peaceful England—he proved himself as gallant as he was gigantic, as unconquerable as he was noble, and as dangerous as he was daring. And there ran in his veins—thin though it might be—an indubitable streak of that ancient blood which, in his distant ancestry, protected him from proprietorship by any but the Kings of Ireland.

And lest any one should suppose this magnificent creature is only the creation of fancy, let me confess I manufactured him out of the following ingredients. He borrowed his noble head, long body, and fine lashing tail from *Cotswold*, his aristocratic appearance from *Marquis of Donegal*, his small ears, straight legs, perfect feet, and sound constitution from *Wolfe Tone*, his kind, dark eyes from *Ballyhooly*, his height from *Brian Asthore*, his solidity of body and savage temper (when aroused) from *Finn*, his graceful action from *Felixstowe Emo*, his coat from *Atara*, his castiness from *Nuala*, his speed from *Juno-of-the-Fen*, his sense of duty to

his generation from *Cheevra of Kidnal*, his Irish humour from *Wolfe O'Brien*, and his affection from *Dermot Asthore*.

The interests of the Irish wolf-hound are well looked after by the *Irish Wolf-hound Club*, which numbers about sixty members, and has done a great deal for the breed. The entrance fee is a guinea, and membership entitles subscribers to compete for a forty-guinea challenge shield and five ten-guinea challenge cups, besides special prizes, in apportioning which the club is very liberal. Financially there is no similar institution so soundly, not to say opulently, established, for it has a reserve fund of a hundred pounds. Another club, the *Northern Irish Wolf-hound Club*, is a kindred institution, whose aim is to cater for fanciers in the north of England. With the strides that the breed is making in popularity there seems room for the existence of a third club in Ireland, where a considerable body of fanciers have lately sprung into existence.

The following are the *Irish Wolf-hound Club's* Standard of Points of the breed :—

STANDARD OF POINTS OF THE IRISH WOLF-HOUND

1. GENERAL APPEARANCE.—The Irish wolf-hound should not be quite so heavy or massive as the Great Dane, but more so than the deer-hound, which in general type he should otherwise resemble. Of great size and commanding appearance, very muscular, strongly though gracefully built, movements easy and active; head and neck carried high; the tail carried with an upward sweep with a slight curve towards the extremity.

The minimum height and weight of dogs should be 31 inches and 120 lbs.; of bitches 28 inches and 90 lbs. Anything below this should be debarred from competition. Great size, including height at shoulder and proportionate length of body, is the desideratum to be aimed at, and it is desired to firmly establish a race that shall average from 32 to 34 inches in dogs, showing the requisite power, activity, courage, and symmetry.

2. HEAD.—Long, the frontal bones of the forehead *very* slightly raised, and *very* little indentation between the eyes. Skull, not too broad. Muzzle, long and moderately pointed. Ears, small and greyhound-like in carriage.

3. NECK.—Rather long, very strong and muscular, well arched, without dewlap or loose skin about the throat.

4. CHEST.—Very deep; breast, wide.

5. BACK.—Rather long than short; loins, arched.

6. TAIL.—Long and slightly curved, of moderate thickness, and well covered with hair.

7. BELLY.—Well drawn up.

8. FOREQUARTERS.—Shoulders, muscular, giving breadth of chest, set sloping; elbows, well under, neither turned inwards nor outwards; leg, forearm muscular, and the whole leg strong and quite straight.

9. HINDQUARTERS.—Muscular thighs and second thigh long and strong, as in the greyhound, and hocks well let down and turning neither in nor out.

10. FEET.—Moderately large and round, neither turned inwards nor outwards; toes, well arched and closed; nails, very strong and curved.

11. HAIR.—Rough and hard on body, legs, and head; especially wiry and long over eyes and under jaw.

12. COLOUR AND MARKINGS.—The recognised colours are grey, brindle, red, black, pure white, fawn, or any colour that appears in the deerhound.

13. FAULTS.—Too light or heavy a head, too highly arched frontal bone, large ears and hanging flat to the face; short neck; full dewlap; too narrow or too broad a chest; sunken or hollow or quite straight back; bent fore legs; overbent fetlocks; twisted feet; spreading toes; too curly a tail; weak hindquarters and a general want of muscle; too short in body.

POINT VALUES—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Head | 12 | |
| Ears | 7 | |
| Beard and brows | 3 | |
| Eyes | 3 | |
| | — | 25 |
| Height at shoulder | 12 | |
| Substance and girth | 7 | |
| Length of body and symmetry | 6 | |
| | — | 25 |
| Loins and hocks | 9 | |
| Fore legs | 9 | |
| Feet | 7 | |
| | — | 25 |
| Coat | 10 | |
| Neck | 7 | |
| Tails | 5 | |
| Nails | 1 | |
| Teeth | 2 | |
| | — | 25 |
| | | 100 |

I am able to present my readers with a very fine illustration of Irish wolf-hounds, thanks to the kindness of Major Shewell and the perseverance of Mr. F. Parsons of Cheltenham, who took more photographs than I should like to commit myself to numbering, before he obtained the absolutely perfect one of two unleashed-up hounds, in an alert attitude, which I reproduce. Unfortunately, owing to their great size, they are out of proportion to the "scale" adopted for illustrations in this volume, and would require a double page to do their dimensions justice.

Ch. *Costswold* was bred and is owned by Mrs. Percy Shewell. His sire was *O'Leary* and his dam *Princess Patricia of Connaught*, and he was born in March 1902. He weighs 142 lbs., stands 34½ inches at shoulder (being the tallest dog figured in this work), and is a wheaten colour, with a long head, great bone, hazel eyes, and long tail, well carried; good coat, and lots of it; straight on his legs, and with great freedom of movement; a long body and good girth, but is not yet fully filled out. He has won three championships, and is, without doubt, the most typical hound in the breed.

*Wolfe Tone*, also the property of Mrs. Percy Shewell, is by Ch. *Wargrave* ex *Wolfe Colleen*, and was born in August 1900. He is a black and grey dog, weighing 139 lbs., and standing 33¾ inches at shoulder. His owner describes him as "a fine upstanding hound, with lots of courage, splendid legs and feet, good bone and perfectly straight; good coats and lots of it; has a wonderful nose and hunts well; small ears and carries them well; wants length of head and tail, and his eyes are somewhat light. Winner of a championship and many prizes, and sire of *Cotswold Desmond* and *Cotswold Paddy*, and many other whelps."

# GUN-DOGS

*F. Horner, photo.*

POINTER.

*Ch.* LUNESDALE WAGG.

PLATE XVI.

## THE POINTER

As dogs go, the pointer is of very respectable antiquity, having arrived in our latitudes from Spain about the beginning of the eighteenth century. It is said to have been introduced by a "Portugal Marchant," and exploited by a "needy baron" of the name of Bichell, who resided in the county of Norfolk, and eked out a livelihood by sending game for sale to London, though how he got it there in the then state of the roads and the facilities of transport, deponent, Sydenham Edwards, sayeth not in his *Cynographia Britannica*. It is recorded that Baron Bichell was amongst the first to master the art of shooting birds on the wing—a semi-miraculous feat in those days, and with the contemporaneous fowling-piece, something of the Robinson Crusoe type.

With the improvement in firearms and the art of shooting, and the more extended "bag" they led to, the Spanish pointer, with its lack of speed and its too slow and sluggish style of hunting, proved too much of a laggard in a long day, and a dog with more dash was considered desirable, and experimented for. Even in those dim days of dog-fancying, as in these dazzling ones, the development of the dog was an art practised in England, and thus it came to pass that it was sought to rectify the failings of the Spanish pointer

with a dash of the blood of the old southern hound and the foxhound. The improved pointer of his day is well described by the aforesaid Sydenham Edwards, who, writing about the same year as Reinagle painted the animal (whose outline I reproduce as an appropriate illustration to the quotation), left the following information on record :—

The sportsman has improved the breed of pointers by selecting the lightest and gayest individuals, and by judicious crosses with the foxhound, to procure courage and fleetness. From the great attention thus paid has resulted the present elegant dog, of valuable and extensive properties, differing much from the original parent, but with some diminution of his instinctive powers. He may thus be described :—Light, strong, well-formed, and very active, about 22 inches high ; head small and straight ; lips and ears small, short, and thin ; coat short and smooth, commonly spotted or flecked upon a white ground, sometimes wholly white ; tail thin and wiry, except when crossed with the setter or foxhound, when it is a little brushed.

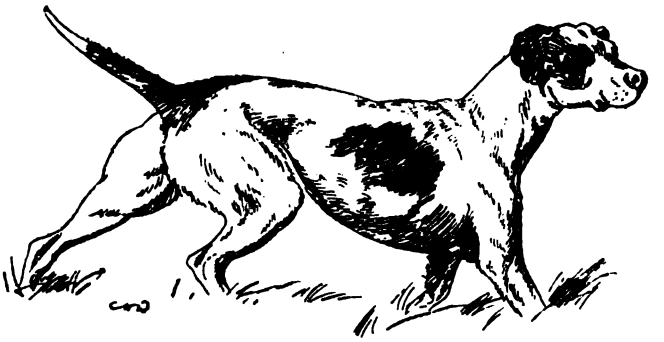
This dog possesses great gaiety and courage, travels in a grand manner, quarters his ground with rapidity, and scents with acuteness ; gallops with his haunches well under him, his head and tail up ; of strength to endure any fatigue, and invincible spirit. But with these qualifications he has concomitant disadvantages. His high spirit and eagerness for the sport render him intractable and extremely difficult of education ; his impatience in company subjects him to a desire to be foremost in the points, and not give time for the sportsman to come up, and to run in upon the game, particularly down wind. But if these faults can be overcome in training,—if he can be made staunch in standing, drawing, and backing, and to stop at the voice, or token of the hand,—he is highly esteemed, and those who arrive at such perfection in this country fetch amazing prices.

The most judicious cross appears to have been made with the foxhound, and by this has been acquired speed and courage, power and perseverance ; and their disadvantage—difficulty of training to be staunch. I believe the celebrated Colonel Thornton first made the cross, and from his producing excellent dogs it has been very generally followed.

The "celebrated Colonel Thornton" is a character,

I might almost call him a dog-fancier, who looms large in the canine literature of a hundred years ago, and he was as great, perhaps even greater, in pointers than in

SPANISH POINTER (1803). *After Reinagle.*



POINTER (1803). *After Reinagle.*

foxhounds or beagles. Thus he owned two celebrated pointers called *Pluto* and *Juno*, of whom it is recorded that they pointed for a hundred minutes whilst an artist of the name of Gilpin painted their picture! A rather tall story, but tall stories are the badge of this

tribe. He also owned a specimen called *Dash*, which he sold, or rather bartered, for another pointer, an excellent gun, a hogshead of claret, a hundred and sixty pounds' worth of champagne and burgundy, and the proviso that if the dog came to be disabled from work the Colonel might claim him back for £50. The dog subsequently broke his leg, and under the terms of the bargain went back to his old master.

From this time forward—and at this time it is easy to see the pointer was a dog much fancied—increasing attention was paid to the breeding and perfecting of the pointer, and in the first half of the nineteenth century quite a number of famous kennels of the breed sprang into existence. Amongst them may be mentioned those of Mr. Meynell, Squire Osbaldstone (both of foxhunting fame), the Earl of Derby, the Duke of Kingston (celebrated for his black strain), the Earl of Lauderdale (equally noted for his small strain, which weighed a little over 30 lbs.), Mr. Webbe Edge, Mr. Mattingley, and others whose names are household words in the pointer-world. The breed improved greatly, and reached a zenith in the 'Seventies, which produced such peerless specimens as Ch. *Wagg* and Ch. *Drake*, who each weighed 65 lbs., and did a lot of winning on show-bench and at field trials. *Drake*, who was bred by Sir R. Garth, was sold when passing well on in years for £150. He was the fastest and most wonderful animal that ever quartered a field—"a phenomenon of pointers," Mr. Rawdon Lee calls him. His grandson, *Faust*, was sold for £450 to go to America. "Pointers' Prices Current" reveal some astounding figures, especially across the Atlantic, where they are very popular, and enormous prices have been paid for extra good specimens. And in England, too, values seem to have kept the high level Edwards

makes mention of a hundred years ago—allowing for the difference in the standard of valuation of the canine.

As I have hinted a little earlier, anecdote gathers round the pointer like moss round the stone that does not roll. I will not weary my readers with the old chesnut about the pointer that pointed not merely to death, but to skeletonhood, nor with less chesnutty stories of dogs that "stood" for twelve hours, but here is an authenticated item that tells of a singularly grim adhesion to duty in a pointer which might have been christened "Stickphast." *Clio* was a bitch belonging to a Mr. Lee, and as she was out with him one day she became aware of a nest of partridges just as she was in the act of jumping a five-barred gate. It is inferred she performed the feat of pointing in mid air, for her master, missing her about two hours afterwards, harked back on his trail to find her, and came across *Clio*, her front legs planted on the ground and her hind ones hooked on to the gate. In this attitude she had remained all that time, pointing at the nest of partridges, which Mr. Lee, on his arrival to investigate her improbable attitude, searched for and discovered. He relieved her, but she was so stiff she could not move, and he had to set her down on the grass and rub her legs before she could bend them again.

Having paid this conventional tribute to the capacity of the pointer for performing incredible feats,—there is no breed of dog whose annals are so magnificently decorated with marvellous achievement as this,—I will try to relapse into truth, and continue my discourse where I suspended it to introduce an anecdote which I am assured is true, but don't believe.

The Rev. Thomas Pearce, better known as "Idstone," has left us a description of the pointer of his time so

picturesque and captivating that I cannot refrain from quoting it. He writes :—

The pointer is a model of beauty, worthy of the capital material from which he has descended. He is to be found now in every kennel of mark, with all the attributes and propensities of the highest class, and with intelligence and observation worthy the name of reason. His airy gallop, his lashing stern, his fine range, his magnificent dead-stop at game, his rapid turn to catch the wind of the body-scent, his perseverance, under a trying sun, to catch a faint and hardly perceptible stain of game borne to him on the breeze; his glorious attitude as he becomes (directly his widespread nostrils assure him he is right) stiff and motionless, with limbs widespread, head aloft, stern high held, and his implicit obedience to the lessons he learnt, perhaps two or three seasons past,—all these wonderful gifts put him on a level with that paragon of hounds with which he claims relationship.

Although this work makes no pretensions to deal with sporting dogs in the performance of their duties, the fact that all gun-dogs are judged by what are known as "field trials,"—that is, an examination of their abilities and merits in the field, success in which counts for far more than their wins on the show-bench,—is my excuse for bringing in the following very best description of such trials that I have ever read, or want to read. Exigencies of space compel me to compress it a little; but those who wish to read the stirring story in its entirety will find it in Mr. Rawdon Lee's exhaustive article on the pointer in his second volume on *Modern Sporting Dogs* :—

Probably the best work ever done at field trials was in a heat run between *Romp's Baby*, handled by Mr. Brown, and Mr. Arkwright's *Revel*, at Blandford, Dorset, in 1882.

The two dogs were ordered down on a ploughed field, recently rolled, and looking as flat as a billiard table, without the least covert; the sun was shining so brightly that imagination could readily lead to the belief that a beetle could be seen a hundred yards away. It was not a big field, and the wind was coming on in the right quarter.

The bitches were cast off. No one quite knew which was the faster till they got together. Neck and neck they raced alongside, each doing her best. Then *Baby* drew out and left her friend, who, finding herself outpaced (for the first time in her life), wheeled about, and took an independent beat. *Baby* completed her cast to the fence, took fresh ground, got the wind in her teeth, and was soon swiftly coming up the field as fast as a swallow, and as prettily. She overtook *Revel*, once more inviting her to test her pace, which she did; but finding it "no go," again turned sulkily away, and went on her own errand. The crowd marvelled at the speed of *Baby*—for she was very small, and of that black or blue-mottled variety—and looked on with astonishment to see how *Revel* "chucked up the sponge," her sulkiness at being out-paced increasing as the trial went on.

Presently *Baby*, coming up the field with the wind in her favour, on reaching the centre, pulled up as in a cloud of dust, and stood like a statue, attitudinising like a stage dancer, her neck outstretched, her stern poised stiffly, her toes hardly touching the earth, her whole form quivering. Never was there a more earnest point. But what was it?

There lay the field, shining and shimmering like a newly-rolled onion-bed; not a vestige and not the chance of anything being on it without being seen. Mr. Brown pulled up in an attitude almost as stagey as the bitch. He had complete confidence in her; but her owner afterwards said he doubted the scent, and thought that perhaps *Baby* saw something. There she stood as *Revel*, a clever, sensible bitch, came galloping up behind her. She took in the position, came upon *Baby's* tracks, gave a slight jerk, half intending to acknowledge the point, and then, slowing down, passed her opponent, who never budged an inch.

*Revel* moved about in front in a half-hesitating way, and lo! to the surprise of everybody, up got a brace of birds about fifty yards on the left front. Mr. Brown of course claimed them for his bitch, and everybody thought she had behaved very well, and *Revel* very badly.

The latter was brought back; but *Baby* stood on, stock still, no flinching, no dropping when the birds had risen—there stood she, stiffer than ever, and, if possible, more in the air. You could almost see daylight under her feet. Her handler, his heart never in doubt, began to regard her with attention, and then, as it were, "tumbling to it," went up to her side, and tried to move her on. But no; she seemed to say, "I've got my birds. You

may have a field full if you like ; but if you want mine, you must trust to me."

Every one stood in intense excitement to see the bitch "do or die," make a fool of herself, or come out with something wonderful. It was odds on the fool. With much pressure she was forced on a few yards, when a hare jumped up close to her, which never shook her in the least. And then, nearly a hundred yards away, a pair of birds rose right in her line. At that instant she dropped as though she had been shot!

The first person who came up to congratulate the owner was Mr. Arkwright, who said it was the most wonderful piece of work he had ever seen.

So much for the pointers of the past—of the days when the drive and the *battue* had not such a hold on the fashionable sportsman as they have now, and the hardier gunner followed his dog through turnips, stubble, and fallow, and won his bag by the sweat of his brow. Days were, in my distant youth, when the last week of my summer holidays (given much earlier in that era than is the custom now) were made red-letter ones to me by my being allowed to accompany an uncle for the first week of partridge shooting, to "carry the sandwiches"; and I can call to mind many a long tramp, from sunny morn to dewy eve, with *Ponto* the pointer and *Shot* the setter, whose working was a liberal education in animal ability. And it is but a platitude, as stale as it is trite, to say that there is perhaps more pleasure in seeing good dogs work than in any other feature of a successful day's sport.

We have come to regard the pointer as purely an English dog ; perhaps we are, as a nation, a little prone to monopolise the canine kingdom as peculiarly our own. But as a matter of fact it is a very popular breed on the Continent. Germany has her strains of pointers—one of them a shaggy-haired animal ; and Russia has also a breed. The German pointer is a

heavy-set, large-boned dog, with prominent flews and a good deal of throatiness; he is extensively used in the Fatherland, but is slow at his game. The rough-coated pointer, a queer-looking animal, is said to be unequalled in endurance and insensibility to changes of temperature by any gun-dog, and to have a cross of the griffon in him. The pointer still exists in its original home, Spain, and a couple were exhibited at an English show not so many years ago, described as "short, thick-set, small dogs, fawn rather than lemon and white in colour, double-nosed, and with short, stumpy heads—very ugly animals indeed."

Coming now to modern pointers, here are the opinions of some experts in the breed on the type as it exists to-day:—

MR. HARDING COX.—The type has been very constant, and pointers have bred fairly true to it; though the old-fashioned "square-box" heads are less in evidence than they were twenty years ago, the prevailing frontispiece being now more setter-like. Likewise, we do not see so many of the big, powerful sort as heretofore, Ch. *Lunesdale Wagg* being a brilliant exception. The average pointer has much better legs and feet than the setter, and herein lies a great advantage to the former. When comparing the points of the pointer bitch Ch. *Coronation* with the beautiful Irish setter in a tight finish for the coronation cup, I pointed out to my colleague, Mr. Gresham, the superiority of the former's pasterns and feet. His reply was that setters were never so good in those particulars as pointers. Whereupon I argued that the most perfect specimen of the soundest and most perfect breed should take precedence. This logic was accepted by Mr. Gresham, and *Coronation* received the award. It would be highly satisfactory if setter and pointer benches at our dog shows could be restored to their erstwhile brilliance. Classes for dogs that have run in field trials are very useful, but necessarily attract a limited entry. But possibly if others were provided for dogs regularly shot over (definition to be laid down) and really good prizes offered, we might see some really sporting workmanlike dogs shown. Pointers are particularly sagacious and loyally affectionate; they are splendid companions, even when the gun is laid aside.

MR. H. SAWTELL.—I consider that, notwithstanding the extreme strictness shown towards our modern dogs by some experts, there are still as good specimens of the breed, both for the field and show-bench, in this country at the present time as are to be found elsewhere. I prefer the pointer to the setter because I think it is able to go considerably longer without water when out shooting and unable to get any.

MRS. L. HORNER.—I am not quite satisfied with type. I think the modern dog wants more squareness and length of muzzle. I consider that no dog should be penalised for failure in one point—as, for instance, in the case of the colour of the eye being too light. If a dog excels in every point, this fault should not put him out of the prize list. In giving my opinion of an ideal pointer, I think, first, the head should be in proportion to the body; a light-weight, small pointer should not have as strong a head as a heavy-weight dog, neither should the heavy-weight dog have too fine-drawn a head, or he would appear to be all body and no head. It has occurred to me several times that sundry judges appear to prefer pointers with heads of setter type, quite forgetting that although the setter and pointer breeds are in all essentials of body, legs, feet, carriage of tail, and general bearing practically identical, yet in head properties they are widely different. For instance, the pointer should not have the pronounced occiput which is essential in the setter, and in consequence his head lacks that peaked, narrow, long-drawn appearance we see in most of the best setter heads. With regard to the pointer's muzzle, it should be long, blunt, and square, with deep flews. It should not fall away in front of the eyes, as this gives an appearance of coarseness to the skull. A pointer's colour should be a white body, with light ticks of either liver or lemon, and the blotches of the same colours should not be too heavy, or the dog looks clumsy. The head should always be evenly marked.

The well-known judge, Mr. B. Warwick, in his review of the breed in the *Kennel Gazette* for January 1903, writes: "I cannot see that there has been any advance, though there has equally been no falling off in quality this year. At the same time, it has generally been one of the old champions who has taken the honours at shows, and until age tells upon them I do not think their owners have much to fear from the younger generation. It has always been a source of great satisfaction to me to see the success achieved by one or two kennels, notably by the dogs belonging to Mr. Arkwright, as with his champions we have

always before us animals who are known first-class workers. I wish I could say the same of all prize-winners. I should like to see greater encouragement given by show committees to the working classes."

The *Pointer Club*, established in 1887, looked after the interests of the breed until it deceased—at least I believe it to be defunct, for many searches after its address have been futile. The following Standard of Points is that given by "Stonehenge," and still retained by the majority of fanciers as the best to work to :—

### STANDARD OF POINTS OF THE POINTER

HEAD.—Should be of good size ; wider across the ear than in the setter, with the forehead rising well at the brows, though showing a decided stop. A full development of the occipital protuberance is indispensable, and the upper surface should be in two slightly rounded flats, with a furrow between.

NOSE.—Should be long (4 inches to 4¾ inches) and broad, with widely opened nostrils. The end must be moist, and, in health, cold to the touch. It should be black or very dark brown in all but the lemon and whites ; in them it may be a deep flesh colour. It should be cut off square, and not pointed, *e.g.*, "snipe nose" or "pig jaw"; teeth meeting evenly.

EARS, EYES, AND LIPS are as follows :—Ears soft in coat, moderately long and thin in leather, not folded like the hound's, but lying flat and close to the cheeks, and set on low, without any tendency to prick. Eyes soft and of medium size ; colour brown, varying in shade with that of the coat. Lips well-developed and frothing when in work, but not pendant or flue-like.

NECK.—Should be arched towards the head ; long and round, without any approach to dewlap or throatiness. It should come out with a graceful sweep from between the shoulder-blades.

SHOULDERS AND CHEST are dependent on each other for their formation. Thus, a wide and hooped chest cannot have the blades lying flat against the sides. And, consequently, instead of this and their sloping backwards, as they ought to do in order to give free action, they are upright, short, and fixed. Of course a certain width is required to give room for the lungs, but the volume required should be obtained by depth rather than by width. Behind the blades the ribs should, however, be well arched, but still deep ; this last—depth of back rib—is especially important.

BACK, QUARTERS, AND STIFLES constitute the main propellers of the machine, and on their proper development the speed and power of the dog depend. The loin should be very slightly arched and full of muscle, which should run well over the back ribs ; the hips should be wide, with

a tendency even to raggedness, and the quarters should droop very slightly from them. These last must be full of firm muscle, and the stifles should be well bent and carried widely apart, so as to allow the hind legs to be brought well forward in the gallop, instituting a form of gallop which does not tire.

LEGS, ELBOWS, AND HOCKS.—These, chiefly bony parts, though merely the levers by which the muscles act, must be strong enough to bear the strain given them, and this must act in the straight line of progression. Substance of bone is therefore demanded, not only in the shanks but in the joints, the knees and hocks being especially required to be bony. The elbows should be well let down, giving a long upper arm, and should not be turned in or out, the latter being, however, the lesser fault of the two, as the confined elbow lessens the action considerably. The reverse is the case with the hocks, which may be turned in rather than out, the former being generally accompanied by that wideness of stifles which I have already insisted upon. Both hind and fore pasterns should be short, nearly upright, and full of bone.

FEET are all-important, for however fast and strong the action may be, if the feet are not well shaped and their horny covering hard, the dog will soon become footsore when at work, and will then refuse to leave his master's heels, however high his courage may be. Breeders have long disputed the comparative good qualities of the round, cat-like foot, with the toes well arched and *close together*. This is the *desideratum* of the master of foxhounds, and, I think, stands work better than the hare-foot; but in the pointer no such superiority can be claimed. The main point, however, is the closeness of the pads compared with the thickness of the horny covering.

STERN.—Must be strong in bone to the root, but should at once be reduced in size as it leaves the body, and then gradually taper to a point, like a bee's sting. It should be very slightly curved above the line of the back, and without the slightest approach to curl at the tip.

SYMMETRY AND QUALITY.—Of these the pointer should display a goodly proportion, no dog showing more difference between the gentleman and the opposite. It is impossible to analyse the essentials, but the judge carries the knowledge with him.

COAT.—The texture should be soft and mellow, but not absolutely silky.

COLOUR.—There is now little choice in fashion between the liver and the lemon and whites. After them come the black and whites, with or without tan, then the pure blacks, and, lastly, the pure livers. Dark liver, ticked, is perhaps the most beautiful colour of all to the eye.

POINT VALUES—

| | |
|---|---|
| Head . . . . . | 10 |
| Shoulders and chest . . . . | 15 |
| Nose . . . . . | 10 |
| Eyes, ears, and lips . . . . | 4 |
| Carry forward . . | 39 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Brought forward | 39 |
| Neck | 6 |
| Back, quarters, and stifle | 15 |
| Legs, elbows, and hocks | 12 |
| Feet | 8 |
| Stern | 5 |
| Symmetry and quality | 7 |
| Coat | 3 |
| Colour | 5 |
| Total | 100 |

The three most typical show-bench pointers of the present day would appear to be Ch. *Lunesdale Wagg*, Ch. *Faskally Bragg*, and Ch. *Coronation*, and I have selected the former for illustration.

Ch. *Lunesdale Wagg* was bred by its owner, Mrs. L. Horner, and is by the field-trial Champion *Woolton Druid* ex *Druidess*, and was whelped in July 1900. It is a white dog, with a liver head and a slight patch of liver on its back; weighs rather over 60 lbs. and stands 26 inches at the shoulder. Its owner describes it as "a big, strong dog, eyes brown (rather on the light side), carriage of ears and tail perfect, as also are his legs, feet, and girth of body. He has won five championships, including Birmingham in 1903, under such a connoisseur as Mr. Harding Cox, and nearly fifty first prizes, with many of lesser dignity. He is the sire of *Fishguard Shot* and several other very promising young pointers, and will no doubt leave his mark on the breed."

## THE RETRIEVER

THE retriever is a nineteenth century dog, but it would be hard to say which was the exact decade of its *début*. The generally accepted idea is that it is the product of a cross between the Labrador, or lesser Newfoundland dog, and the water spaniel, with a good dash of setter blood in the flat coated variety. The Labrador retriever, as he is now called, has been recently honoured with a separate classification by the Kennel Club, and is a much older dog than the ordinary English retriever, being known and imported into this country in the first quarter of the last century, and used for retrieving and sporting duties. But the half-caste son has altogether outstripped the pure-blooded sire, and established himself as a recognised and common English breed, whilst its progenitor is still a comparative rarity, confined to a few select kennels.

There are two varieties of the English retriever—the flat-coated and the curly-coated, of which the former is by far the commoner and held in the higher esteem. Indeed, there are experts who profess to believe it will become the sporting dog, *par excellence*, of the future.

### THE FLAT-COATED RETRIEVER

It is just thirty years ago since the flat-coated retriever first made his bow on the show-bench, and at

*E. Landor, photo.*

FLAT-COATED RETRIEVER.

BLACK DRAKE. PLATE XVII.

that time he was a considerably heavier and coarser dog than he is now, showing more of the massive Newfoundland breeding, and less of the racy, sporting type to which he has been fined down. Mr. S. E. Shirley, the President and founder of the Kennel Club, was one of the pillars of the breed, and to him and Mr. Harding Cox, and, more recently, Mr Reginald Cooke and Mr. Allen Shuter, the breed is chiefly indebted for the perfection to which it has attained.

As I am in the happy position of having contributions from three of these gentlemen, I will "cut the cackle and come to the dogs," which occupy a very prominent position on the modern show-bench, there having been considerably over a hundred entries of the breed at the Kennel Club Show of 1903, with four champions competing in the open class for dogs.

MR. HARDING COX'S IDEAL FLAT-COATED RETRIEVER.—The first thing to do when appraising a retriever is to cast the eye over his outline, symmetry, character, action, and stern carriage; time enough to minutely examine the numerous points of conformation and coat which go to make the acme of excellence, when the standard of "general appearance" has been admittedly reached.

Behold, then, the ideal! He gives the impression of being, comparatively, a big dog, and is so in fact; but he is not too big. His outline is a succession of artistic curves, of perfect balance. His action in walking or trotting is deceptive, for he displays a stiff sort of roll, which is highly characteristic of the breed. But send him to retrieve the grouse you have just shot, which has fallen on the further side of yon stone wall! Now he stretches out with level, machine-like strides, just touches the fence as he flies it, anon returns, bird held firmly, but tenderly, and without slackening speed brings it straight to your hand, and delivers it dry and unharmed as far as he is concerned. Note the way he keeps his feathered stern waving on a level with his back, as you commend him for his prompt attention to business; observe the keen, kindly expression of his deep brown eyes, and the cock of his medium sized, close carried ears—there is a picture for you!

Now call up an expert, and ask him to demonstrate his perfections *seriatim*. He has a long, level head, flat skull, not too broad and certainly not too narrow (an attempt has been made to eulogise narrow skulls; there must be room for brains, and above all a peaked occiput, *à la setter*, is strongly to be deprecated). In front of the eye the muzzle is long and strong; there is no falling away under the eye, and not a suspicion of snipeyness. His nose is large, and nostrils well spread; his lips tight, without suspicion of loose flews, and the inner membrane is all black. The jaws are quite level, and the teeth large, firm, and dazzling white. His eye is a deep, rich brown; were it light or sloe-black our ideal would be found wanting; whilst any suggestion of yellow would completely destroy his claims to perfection. Not only is his eye the correct colour, but it is of medium size—neither deep set nor pedunculated. His neck is long and artistically arched, being set into long, sweeping, perfectly flush shoulders. His chest is very deep, and rather narrow; his ribs somewhat flat, being only slightly sprung as regards the "back numbers." (*N.B.*—Here the writer differs from some authorities, who insist on well sprung ribs; but he has practical reasons for his dictum, as explained in his chapter on retrievers in the latest edition of *British Dogs*.) To continue: Our ideal has the legs and feet of a foxhound, but without the pigeon-toed tendency of the latter. The bone is not too thick and coarse, but it has the quality and density of ivory, for our friend is the outcome of a scientific blending of the choicest "quality" strains. As the race-horse is to the cart-horse, so is the thorough-bred retriever to the gamekeeper's nondescript. Behind the ribs the couplings are of sufficient length to ensure liberty of action, and are in true proportion to the depth of the chest. (*N.B.*—A dog too short in the couplings has a "jumped up" appearance; but a long, weak middle-piece is likewise a serious detriment. All these points should be a question of symmetry and balance.) The loins are strong and slightly sloping to the set-out of the stern, which is of moderate length, its tip reaching to the point of the hock. It has a graceful curve from the root; but there is not a suspicion of hook or curl at the extremity. It is difficult to describe the stern action on paper; it needs ocular demonstration. The thighs, second thighs, and gaskins are strong, muscular, and well-furnished: the hocks boney, horizontal as from the point to the pastern, and as true as the lock of a gun in action. Cow-hocks are, unfortunately, too often in evidence, and should be most severely penalised; this tendency is one that is growing amongst so-called

sporting dogs, as seen at shows, and it behoves judges to keep a very watchful eye on this most horrible failing. The pasterns of our ideal are broad, strong, and rather more springy than in the case of the ideal hound, but the feet of the two breeds should be identical. Find me such an animal as I have described, and I will grapple him to my kennel with chains of gold!

With this eloquent and graphic ideal to create a living picture in our mind's eye, the more critical notes that follow will be found specially instructive.

MR. HARDING COX.—The type to-day breeds very true and level, and has greatly improved in general quality of late years. There is a tendency with some judges to encourage skulls too narrow and peaked; also too many light eyes, and bad hock action. There is no Retriever Club proper, so no official standard exists; but some writers allow too much for head and eyes, and not enough for outline, symmetry, balance, and action. I attribute the level, unexaggerated type of the flat-coated retriever of the day to the fact that no specialist club exists for its "protection and improvement (?)" I have bred these dogs for a quarter of a century, and have in my time had more success in this line than any one, with the possible exception of Mr. S. E. Shirley. I find them very engaging companions, of a most affectionate, loyal, and docile temperament. The best show strains take naturally to their work, and their sagacity is marvellous. It is a mistake to suppose that black is the only recognised colour for the retriever; a good liver, chocolate, red, or even cream-coloured or white would have full recognition by any modern expert judge, if the dog was up to the proper standard as regards points of conformation, coat, and symmetry.

MR. H. REGINALD COOKE.—As a breeder for twenty years I consider that flat-coated retrievers have steadily improved during that time. Very rarely does one see a bad dog exhibited now at the leading shows. As the flat-coated retriever is essentially a working dog, I consider it important that breeders should not lose sight of his working points, especially at the expense of fancy points. Occasionally there is a tendency to go to extremes in this direction, and not pay sufficient attention to movement, intelligence, activity, and similar points necessary in the worker. As for judging, in a close competition for a championship or special prize between a dog and a bitch, I consider the judge should slightly favour the former. A good dog is more difficult

to produce than a good bitch, and should have a slight preference when the balance of points is nearly equal. For the requirements of modern shooting I consider that the flat-coated retriever is the sportsman's best friend. He is intelligent, tractable, easily broken, and has a charming disposition. In the field he generally possesses a keen nose and a very tender mouth—differing in this last respect from his curly-coated brother.

M. L. ALLEN SHUTER.—I am perfectly satisfied with the type of the breed, which has been brought almost to perfection. I prefer the flat-coated retriever to any other breed, because it is such a charming companion, very good tempered, very handsome, and, in the right hands, a grand dog with the gun.

MR. ROBERT PATERSON.—I think, with advantage to the dogs themselves, they might be a little higher on the leg for all-round work, and rather shorter in the back; they are inclined to be on the clumber side, rather too heavy boned and long and low. I consider that there is too much attention paid to the head, and the other good points of the dog somewhat lost sight of. The head is of little use without good body, legs, and feet. Also I think a dog is penalised too much for faulty tail-carriage. I have bred and broken retrievers for twenty-five years, and I always have a curly or two; but of the two varieties I much prefer the flat. I may say that I work flat and curlies alongside of each other, and, as regards their work, there is nothing to choose between them. But as a companion, and for good temper, the flat is far and away the best of the two; at least this has been my experience, and I have never seen a curly do what I would be afraid to put a flat to follow. But there will always be found a bad one here and there in both varieties. I consider that the flat-coated retriever as a companion is better than the curly; he is not so liable to quarrel, much more docile, easier kept in coat, and with the best of tempers. I like my retriever with a perfectly flat coat, a reachy neck, strong shoulders, short back, deep chest, free from any rollicking gait in walking, and to show altogether racy build without any cloddiness. I think there is a good deal too much of the setter head in the breed.

## STANDARD OF POINTS OF THE FLAT-COATED RETRIEVER

SKULL, EARS, AND NECK.—Skull bone wide and flat at the top, with slight furrow down the middle; brow by no means pronounced, but the skull is not absolutely in a straight line with the nose. Ears must be small, lie close to the head, and set on low, but not hanging down in

hound fashion ; the hair on them must be short. Eyes should be of medium size, dark in colour, bright, intelligent-looking, and mild in expression, indicating a good temper.

NOSE AND JAWS are to be considered from two points of view—first, as to the powers of scent, and, secondly, as to the capacity for carrying a hare or pheasant without risk of damage. For both purposes the jaws should be long, and, for the development of scenting powers, the nose should be wide, the nostrils open, and its end moist and cool. Teeth level, and neither over nor under-shot.

NECK, LOINS, AND BACK.—Whatever be the breed of dog, his neck should be long enough to allow him to stoop in seeking a trail. A chumpy neck is especially bad ; for, while a little dog may get along on a foot scent with a short neck, a comparatively large and unwieldy dog tries himself terribly by the necessity for crouching in his pace. Loins and back wide, deep, and strong.

QUARTERS AND STIFLES.—Must be muscular, and so formed as to enable the retriever to do his work fast enough to please the modern sportsman, with ease to himself. The stifles should be nicely turned.

SHOULDERS.—Should be long and sloping ; otherwise, even with a proper length of neck, the dog cannot stoop to a foot scent without fatigue.

CHEST.—Should be broad as well as deep, with well-developed and well-sprung ribs.

LEGS, KNEES, AND HOCKS.—When tolerably fast work is to be done by a heavy dog, it is important that these parts should be strong and free from disease in their joints. Hence the legs must not only be long and muscular, but they must be clean and free from lumber. The knees should be broad and the hocks well developed and clean.

FEET are rather larger, proportionately, than in the setter, but they should be compact, and the toes well arched. Soles thick and strong.

TAIL.—Should be bushy in proportion to the dog, but not feathered. It should be carried gaily, but not curled over the back.

COAT.—Is short, but not so short as in the pointer or hound ; it should be close and thick and straight as possible ; a thin open coat, underneath which the skin is easily found, is bad, however straight it may be.

COLOUR.—Should be a rich black, free from rustiness and from white.

SYMMETRY AND TEMPERAMENT.—The symmetry and elegance of this dog are considerable, and should be highly valued. The evidences of good temper must be regarded with great care, since his utility mainly depends upon his disposition. A sour-headed brute, with a vicious look about his eyes, should be disqualified.

WEIGHT.—Dogs from 50 lbs. to 68 lbs. ; bitches rather smaller.

POINT VALUES—

| | |
|---|---|
| Skull, ears, and eyes . . . . | 10 |
| Nose and jaws . . . . . | 5 |
| Neck, loins, and back . . . . | 10 |
| Carry forward . . | 25 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Brought forward . . | 25 |
| Quarters and stifles . . . . | 5 |
| Shoulders and chest . . . . | 13 |
| Legs, knees, and hocks . . . . | 12 |
| Feet . . . . . | 10 |
| Tail . . . . . | 5 |
| Coat . . . . . | 10 |
| Symmetry and temperament . . . | 20 |
| Total . . | 100 |

(*Note.*—Whilst these are the scale of points as laid down by authorities, the reader is recommended to compare them with Mr. Harding Cox's description of an "ideal" flat-coated retriever, especially with regard to head properties and ribs. As one of the leading judges of the day Mr. Cox's opinion is second to none, and any modifications he suggests in the official description of the dog should be carefully studied.)

## THE CURLY-COATED RETRIEVER

The curly-coated retriever has been described as a "waning" variety of the breed, and one that has not "come to stay," its position being usurped by its flat-coated brother, than whom it is an older dog, certainly on the show-bench, for it was first exhibited in the earliest days of dog shows. That was over forty years ago, and more than a decade had to pass before the now more popular variety got an opening at all. And yet at the last Kennel Club Show there were a hundred more entries of the flat-coated than there were of the curly, which sufficiently reflects the comparative popularity of the two dogs. And this notwithstanding that the curly retriever has a specialist club to foster and push it on, with a president and six vice-presidents, amongst whom appear some names to conjure with in the canine world; as also in its list of three dozen members, which contains many of those held to be *cognoscenti* in the fancy.

Here is Mr. Robert Paterson's description of an ideal curly-coated retriever, which forms a peg for me to hang my other critical contributions on to:—

*E. Ore-Thomson, photo.*

CURLY-COATED RETRIEVER.

*Ch.* BELLE VUE SURPRISE.

PLATE XVIII.

The curly-coated retriever is much before the flat-coated variety in my opinion for *style*. He has a most perfect head, and shows no "setter" as he has been developed to-day, although occasionally some specimens are inclined to be snipey in muzzle. Apart from this I consider them much the best dogs in the general. They are much shorter in back, with strong hindquarters, and do not show so much weakness there as the flat; but they are generally weaker in the eyes, and many of them suffer from a watery discharge, or the appearance of it. The curly retriever should have as dark an eye as can possibly be got; stand well from the ground, with good, long, straight legs, nice round feet, and of course plenty of bone. But their chief beauty and smart appearance lies in their coat, which should be one mass of short, crisp curls, and when of a glossy, jetty black colour I cannot imagine any handsomer dog in this respect. But if an ideal dog must have an ideal temper, I fear the curly-coated retriever is not the one to come successfully out of the test. Notwithstanding I like them so well that I always manage to keep one or two.

MR. G. W. MASON (the Honourable Secretary of the Curly-coated Retriever Club). — For extraordinary intelligence and faithfulness there is no breed of dog that, in my opinion, can compare with a curly-coated retriever; and it is scarcely necessary to add that of all breeds this is the handsomest. Some of our so-called breakers have condemned it as hard-mouthed, but I have no hesitation in saying that in nine cases out of ten the fault lies with the breaker. I have bred hundreds of them, and to my knowledge have never bred a hard-mouthed one. I have seen puppies at two months' old, on many occasions, fetch a blown egg out of water without damaging it in the least.

MR. TOM WELBURN.—The modern curly-coated retriever is as near perfection as it can be, with the exception that it might, as a rule, have a little more bone and substance than we see in a lot of the show-bench specimens of to-day. I do not agree with some of the point values—as, for instance, allowing twenty-five points for coat. This is ridiculous, in my opinion. I have seen many good specimens sent out of the show-ring because they did not happen to possess a good coat, or a dark eye; otherwise they were far superior to many of the winners. There is no better companion than the curly-coated retriever. I have had thirty-two years amongst sporting dogs, and I have not yet found any of another breed to excel him at work, and have tried many, including the flat-coated variety that we hear so much about, but which I consider only a drawing-room dog. The curly is harder to

break, but when once broken no dog can surpass him as a sportsman's dog. They also make good guards. I once lived in a colliery district as gamekeeper, and whilst passing up a narrow lane one very dark night, accompanied by a curly bitch which I led in a slip, to my astonishment felt half a brick come swash out of the fence at my head. I heard my assailant doing a bolt down the lane, and slipped *Flora*, with a "Go for him!" which she did in a minute, and made him sing "Oh!" She had got him by the posterior, and brought half of his trousers back, which I took down to the policeman, and we soon found out my assailant, who had to do a month—all through my having a good curly-coated retriever.

MR. JOHN BROOKS.—I am quite satisfied with the type of the curly-coated retriever of to-day. As for the breed it is one of the best for work in the field, with its perfect temper and almost human intelligence. I have kept and bred these dogs for twenty-five years, and consider them far superior to the flat-coated variety, both as regards temper and durability, the latter being more of the nature of a collie.

MESSRS. TAYLOR BROTHERS.—We think the type is correct, and have been fortunate enough to breed the record-price dog in the fancy. The show-bench champions would do as well as any of the breed if they had the opportunity. In showing there should be some rule laid down whether to exhibit them wet or dry; some judges object to their being wet, but others do not.

## STANDARD OF POINTS OF THE CURLY-COATED RETRIEVER

(Curly-coated Retriever Club's)

HEAD.—Long and narrow for the length, with jaws long and strong; free from lippiness, with good teeth; wide open nostrils, moist and black.

EYES.—Cannot be too dark; rather large, showing great intelligence and splendid temper; a full, pug's eye objectionable.

EARS.—Small and set on low, lying close to the head, and covered with short curls.

COAT.—Should be one mass of short, crisp curls from the occiput bone to the point of the tail; a saddle back, or patch of uncurled hair behind the shoulders, and white patch on breast should be penalised; but a few white hairs allowed in an otherwise good dog. Colour, black or liver.

SHOULDERS.—Should be very deep, muscular, and obliquely placed.

CHEST.—Not too wide, but decidedly deep.

BODY.—Rather short, muscular, and well ribbed up.

LOIN.—Powerful, deep, and firm to the grasp.

LEGS AND FEET.—Fore legs should be straight, with plenty of bone;

*C. Reid, photo.*

LABRADOR RETRIEVER.

SENTRY.

PLATE XIX.

not too long, and set well under the body. Feet should be round and compact, with toes well arched.

TAIL.—Should be short, carried pretty straight, and covered with short, crisp curls. Tapering towards the point.

GENERAL APPEARANCE.—Should be that of a strong, smart dog, with long, graceful neck, muscular and well placed, and free from throatiness (as in bloodhounds). Moderately low on leg, active, lively, and beaming with intelligence and expression.

POINT VALUES—

| | |
|---|---|
| Head | 15 |
| Eyes | 5 |
| Ears | 5 |
| Coat | 25 |
| Shoulders, chest, body, and loin | 15 |
| Legs and feet | 20 |
| Tail | 5 |
| General appearance | 10 |
| Total | 100 |

## THE LABRADOR RETRIEVER

The Labrador retriever, from which are descended our modern English varieties, is to be found in a few kennels in England. A good many were imported into this country in the first quarter of the nineteenth century, especially by the then Duke of Buccleuch, and it is probably in the Buccleuch kennels that the best dogs are to be found at the present day, and in those of Sir Richard Graham, of Netherby in Cumberland. They are excellent retrievers in the field, though not so soft mouthed as their English cousins, but those who have had to deal with them prefer them to the latter. I fancy there must be some bond of alliance between the Labrador retriever and the Chesapeake Bay dog, of which dog-fanciers across the Atlantic are very proud, although the colour of the former is brown and not black, which the true Labrador must be. The Chesapeake dog is said to be descended from a couple of

dogs saved from a sinking English ship bound from Newfoundland to England; they were described as dogs not so large as a Newfoundland, with hair not long, but thick and wavy. They seem to have had a genius for retrieving duck, and "would follow a wounded one for miles through ice and heavy sea, and if successful in a capture, always bring it back to their owner." There is a picture of a Chesapeake Bay dog in the *American Book of the Dog*, which, except that its feet are shocking, and, barring the colour, has a great generic similarity to the Labrador retriever.

At the 1903 Kennel Club Show there was a very fine bench of Labrador retrievers put up in the flat-coated retriever section, and no less than sixteen specimens faced the judge. The first prize was awarded to the Hon. A. Holland-Hibbert's *Sentry*, whose photograph I am happy to have been able to secure for reproduction as an illustration of this interesting breed, which for stamina and spirit, and for being at home in the water, knows no equal amongst our English sporting dogs of similar character. Mr. Holland-Hibbert considers the modern type of Labrador dog first-rate, but regrets the want of new blood; he considers them the best retrievers for speed, endurance, perseverance, and nose, and describes them as "doing their work at a gallop, and very easily broken."

Amongst the best flat-coated retrievers are Champions *Black Quilt*, *Horton Rector*, *Wimpole Peter*, *Worsley Bess*, *Sweet Fern*, *Black Queen*, *Paul of Riverside*, and *Bring 'em*. Notwithstanding, I have selected Mr. Harding Cox's *Black Drake* for illustration, because I think he claims that honour by reason of his being the sire of four champions (three included in my list), and a perfect host of other winners. Although he may not have had the perfection of some of his progeny, such a sire deserves to be considered from a special point of view, and he was a remarkable winner in his day.

*Black Drake* was bred and owned by Mr. Harding Cox. He was by *Black Cloth* out of *Black Paint*, and traced his descent back to many celebrated champion dogs. He was a big upstanding dog of quality, with lovely outline and coat, dark eyes, long intelligent head, flat skull, best of legs, feet, neck, and shoulders, and an all-round good mover. An excellent dog in the field, especially for wild fowl, with splendid nose and tenderest of mouths. Some judges considered *Black Drake* too "strong" in the head, but it was well proportioned, flat in skull, flush in cheek, and altogether typical. In the stud line he was without rival, and it was a great loss and grief when he died at the early age of five years. He was the sire of Champions *Wimpole Peter*, *Black Queen*, *Bring 'em*, *Black Squirrel*, and the grandsire of Champions *Gipsy of Riverside*, *Paul of Riverside*, and *Black Quilt*. His winning progeny are too numerous to recapitulate. He won two championships and forty-five first prizes and specials.

In curly-coated retrievers Champions *Bellevue Surprise*, *Preston Sultan*, and *Bellevue Nina* head the poll, and I have selected the first named, who is described by his owner, Mr. Charles Flowitt, as follows: "Ch. *Bellevue Surprise* was bred by Messrs. Taylor Brothers, by Ch. *Preston Sultan* ex *Maudland Lady*, and whelped in October 1901. He is 27 inches high at shoulder, and weighs 75 lbs., and is probably the best curly-coated retriever of the day. He has a beautiful head, long and narrow, with dark eyes; nice small ears, set on low; sweet expression, and splendid temper. His coat is one mass of short, crisp curls; he is acknowledged to have the best of legs and feet that could be put on a sporting dog, his fore legs being dead straight, with plenty of bone, and his feet round and compact, with toes well arched. Chest not too deep; body rather short, muscular, and well ribbed up; tail well set on, and tapering towards the end, and not carried too high; good long neck, free from throatiness, and in the ring shows himself like a terrier. He has won his four championships in 1903, the thirty-guinea challenge bowl for the best dog in the breed, and the cup for the best sporting dog at the Birmingham show, besides other prizes too numerous to recapitulate. Has never been defeated in 1903."

The Labrador retriever, *Sentry*, was bred by, and is the property of, the Hon. A. Holland-Hibbert. His sire was *Sixty* and his dam *Scottie*, and he was born in April 1900. He stands 23 inches at shoulder, weighs 65 lbs., and is an all-black dog, without any white hairs. His eyes are light, the carriage

of his ears correct, upright rather when called, tail straight, coat thick and quite straight, splendid shoulders and loins, and hocks well let down. To hint a defect, his tail is a trifle too long, and not sufficiently like an otter's. The photo was taken before he was fully furnished, and he has improved considerably.

*E. Milton, photo.*

ENGLISH SETTER.

MOLL O' LECK.

PLATE XX.

# THE SETTER

THE setter is probably the oldest, and certainly the most elegant and beautiful of our gun-dogs. The ability to "set" or "couch" at game was one developed in certain dogs by our sporting ancestors in the days when the hawk and falcon performed the offices of the modern gun. The setter of that period, known as a land spaniel, accompanied the hawking parties into the field, quartered the ground and indicated where the game lay — no doubt in much the same fashion as it does to-day. Whereupon the hawk was cast loose, circled aloft, and then the quarry was roused to be swooped upon and killed. Subsequently the use of a net was brought into practice, being sometimes drawn towards the place where the setting dog marked the game, and at other times cast, like a fishing-net by some of the skilful handlers in the East, over the suspected spot. The first dog to be trained to this service is said to have been one belonging to the Duke of Northumberland in the middle of the sixteenth century, but it is certain that dogs which had the ability to "set" were known before that period.

The generic name was first given the setter by Dr. Caius in 1570, who wrote: "Another sort of dog there be serviceable for fowling, making no

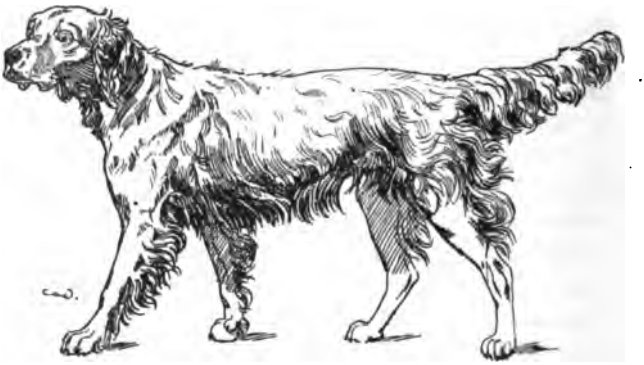
noise either with tongue or foot whilst they follow the game. These attend diligently upon their masters, and frame their conditions to such becks, motions, and gestures as it shall please him to exhibit, inclining to the right hand or yielding to the left. In making mention of fowl my meaning here is of partridge or quail. When he hath found the bird he keepeth sure and fast silence, and stayeth his steps, and will proceed no farther, and with close, covert, watching eye, layeth his belly to the ground, and so creepeth forward like a worm. When he approacheth near to the place where the bird is, he lays down, and with a mark of his paws betrayeth the place of the bird's last abode, whereby it is supposed that this kind of dog is called 'Index'—Setter being a name both consonant and agreeable with his quality."

Three decades after Caius we get an even better description of the setting dog from one Richard Surflet, in his discourse upon land and water spaniels. The whole matter is so good that I must quote it, notwithstanding that a portion of it belongs rather to my spaniel section. "The spaniel is gentle, loving, and courteous to man, more than any other sort of dog whatsoever; he loveth to hunt the wing of any bird, especially partridge, pheasant, quail, and such like. You must choose him by his shape, beauty, mettle, and cunning hunting; his shape being discerned in the good composition of his body, as when he hath a round, thick head; a short nose; a long, well-compast and hairie ear; broad and syde lips; a cleare red eye; a thick neck; broad breast; short and well-knit joints; round feet; good round ribs; a gaunt bellie; a short, broad backe; a thicke, bushie tail, and all his body generally long and well-haired. His beauty is discerned in his colour, of which the motleys or pied

are the best, whether they be black and white, red and white, or liver-hued and white, for to be all of one colour, as all white, or all blacke, or all red, or all liver-hued, without any other spot, is not so comely in the field, although the dogs, notwithstanding, may be of excellent cunning. His mettle is discerned by his free, untiring, laboursome ranging, beating a field over and over, and not leaving a furrow untrodden, or one unsearched, where any haunt is likely to be hidden; and, when he doth it, most courageously and swiftly, with a wanton, playing tail, and a busie labouring nose, neither desisting nor showing less delight in his labour at night than he did in the morning. The land spaniel called the 'Setter' must neither hunt, range nor retaine, more or less than as his master appointeth, taking the whole limit of whatsoever they do from the eye or hand of the instructor. They must never quest at any time, what occasion soever may happen, but as being dogs without voices, so they must hunt close and mute. And when they come upon the haunt of that they hunt, they shall suddenly stop and fall down upon their bellies, and so, leisurely, creep by degrees to the game, till they come within two or three yards thereof, or so near that they can press no nearer without danger of retrieving. Then shall your setter stick, and by no persuasion go farther till you yourself come in and use your pleasure. Now the dogs which are to be made for this pleasure should be the most principal, best, and lustiest spaniels you can get, both of good scent and good courage, yet young and as little as may be made acquainted with such hunting."

From this quotation it is pretty evident that the setter is descended from a spaniel stock. Whether any out-cross entered into the breed at any time it is

difficult to say; "Stonehenge" suggests a strain of the Talbot hound—a suggestion which some setter-fanciers have scouted with great indignation. Mr. Laverack, in his work, *The Setter*, writing, as probably the greatest authority on the breed, is of opinion that "all setters have more or less originally sprung from our various strains of spaniels; I believe it to be of greater antiquity than the pointer, and therefore it cannot have been crossed with that breed to render it what it is." The *Sportsman's Cabinet*,



SETTER (1803). *After Reinagle.*

published in 1803, tells us that at that period the pointer was often called the "smooth spaniel," and the setter the "rough spaniel," in the northern counties. But whatever the origin of the breed, there is absolutely no doubt but that the "setting dog" has enjoyed a classification for about four hundred years, and as such he is entitled to the greatest respect at the hands of the canine historian.

A dog so valuable to the sportsman has naturally been the object of his especial care, and developed to a perfection, both physical and for its practical duties,

such as scarcely any other breed of dog can claim. The improvement achieved in the last century may be inferred from the illustration I give of Reinagle's setter of 1803, which appears to have been a rather plain-headed animal, with the feather of its flag inverted, being longer in fringe at the base than at the end. The original strain has branched into three great families: the English, the Gordon or Black and Tan, and the Irish setter. The English is subdivided into innumerable local strains, of which it would be impossible to deal in detail in an article of the length to which mine is limited. The generic family admits of many colours, such as black and white, lemon and white, liver and white, or tricolour,—those flecked all over being preferred to specimens with heavy patches of colour on the body. The Gordon setter is of the colour its alternative name implies, and the Irish setter of a rich golden tan,—not the slightest trace of black being allowed, though a little white is admissible on chest, throat, toes, or in the shape of a forehead star.

## THE ENGLISH SETTER

To Mr. Laverack in the beginning and middle of the last century, and to Mr. Purcell-Llewellin in the latter half of it, the breed of English setters owes its chief development. Mr. Laverack obtained his strain in a dog and bitch known as Ponto and Old Moll from a gentleman at Carlisle about the year 1825, at a time when dog-pedigrees did not enter into the economy of dog-fancying. By judicious crossing and breeding he perfected a strain which came to be known afterwards by his own name, and was for fifty years amongst the very best of the day. When he died thirty years ago

he left only five dogs, having been unfortunate in rearing latterly; but the blood of these five animals is diffused throughout a great number of the present-day winners; whilst in America, where he exported several specimens from his kennels, a magnificent breed of setters has been propagated from his stock. It was claimed for the Laverack strain that they showed particular excellence all round in the field, and unusual stamina, and that they could work practically from sunrise to sunset for days at a stretch; on the other hand, it has been asserted that the Laveracks have done better on the show-bench than at field trials. This seems to be partially recognised by an American writer, who says: "The breed of English setters has been diverging gradually into two types — one encouraged by shows, the other by the demands of practical field sportsmen. The former is of a cobbier type, with a preference for a needless profusion of feather — fashion having, in a measure, taken the setter from his domain as a working dog, and transferred him to domestic life as a pet and a companion,— a position to which his docility, intelligence, symmetry of form, beautiful coat, and affectionate disposition eminently qualify him."

Following Mr. Laverack came Mr. Purcell-Llewellin, a friend of the former, whose work he carried on with even greater success, until his strain came to be known as the "Llewellin" setter. Mr. Llewellin began by keeping black and tan setters, but discarded them; then he gave a trial to the Irish setter, purchasing the very best specimens to be found in the market, and breeding many winners. And yet was not satisfied, for, although he considered them superior to the black and tan, they still fell below his ideal. Next he experimented by crossing these breeds and others, but failed

to produce the dog he had in his mind's eye. At this time Mr. Laverack's strain was carrying all before it, and Mr. Llewellin purchased some very choice dogs from that kennel. But even amongst these (Mr. Rawdon Lee tells us) he found "many unsatisfactory and inconvenient peculiarities of mind, habit, and instinct to fit them for—attaining his ideal." So he once more set to work experimenting, and the result was the strain of setters that bears his name—"a blend of the pure Laverack, with blood from Sir Vincent Corbet's and Mr. Statter's kennels, and the characteristic of size with quality. That they possess quality and beauty of appearance their show-bench achievements have proved, whilst at the same time their field trial record as a setter kennel has never been approached." This was in the 'Eighties, when Mr. Purcell-Llewellin carried all before him—when he refused £1200 for a dog and £1000 for a couple of bitches of his own breeding. Having once established a strain to his fancy no cross of any sort was allowed to invade it; and the various families in his kennel preserved and transmuted to their progeny their likeness, habits, and methods of working.

Having thus briefly carried the history of the breed to what may be called its high-water mark, I will proceed to give the observations of my contributors on the type as it exists.

MR. R. R. P. WEARING.—I am afraid English setters are deteriorating. There are too few people breeding them, and a great many of the judges do not agree as to the proper type, so that we see all kinds of type winning, very often under the same judge. As a result breeders do not know what type to breed to win. The setters of to-day have not the character they used to have fifteen to twenty years ago. The description of the English setter as defined by the Setter Club is, in my opinion, the proper one, and practically the same as that given by the late Mr.

Edward Laverack. The setter is the most handsome of all English dogs, and, as a rule, easy to break. He makes a good companion if not required for work.

MR. GEORGE POTTER (the Honourable Secretary of the Setter Club).—The type is all right, although there seems to be a tendency to breed some too leggy, thus getting away from the Laverack type, which I consider best for staying and a long day's work. There are no values of points in the breed, which is simply judged as a whole for beauty of formation coupled with adaptability for its natural work. I enjoy nothing better than watching the development of their instinct and sagacity in dealing with game; their affection and obedience in response to kindness, and their beautiful appearance either in the field or as companions.

MR. HARDING COX.—The type is right, but of late years bone has deteriorated, and some specimens, especially amongst Laveracks, are too small and weedy. Pasterns and feet often leave much to be desired. I should like higher point values to be allotted to size, pasterns, and feet, so that the dangerous tendency which now threatens may be counteracted. What a delight it is to shoot over a real good setter! One bird so killed is worth a dozen driven, though the skill required is not so great. Then what an affectionate, patient, and beautiful animal he is!

MR. DONALD M'VICAR.—The English setter type of the present day is not satisfactory. There is a great tendency to weediness, lack of courage, and endurance. This is hardly to be wondered at, considering to what an extent in-breeding has been resorted to, especially since the inception of shows. The remedy for this evil should be out-crossing with unrelated, approved strains; even to the extent of crossing with the Irish setter, in which there is generally to be found an excess of courage and hardiness. The importance of strong, muscular loins and thighs appears to be lost sight of by some present-day judges. These parts are the propellers from whence comes the setter's galloping ability, and unless loins and thighs are highly developed he cannot be possessed of those two grand qualities and essentials—speed and endurance. All the greatest goers that I have known were noted for loin and thigh development. I do not consider the standard of points as vital in judging, and it is doubtful if many judges are guided by them. Thorough and close observation of every detail will enable any practical judge to separate according to merit. Beauty of outline, and high quality combined with substance, all harmonising with present accepted type, is the standard to be kept in view. The pleasure of observing a

setter at work on moor or manor has in itself a great fascination for the true sportsman. Pace, style, and instantaneous decision when he strikes scent of game are his leading characteristics. His sense of duty is none the less marked, as he stands rigidly and beautifully on point, until relieved by the approach of his master, who orders him forwards to flush. The English setter is undoubtedly more attractive in colour than the Gordon or Irish; his expression, also, is more pleasing, and in quality he excels. With regard to dog shows they do much good, and have undoubtedly been the means of improving most breeds. Yet how often, unfortunately, does one see undersized, flat-ribbed, lank-loined setters placed at shows in preference to larger dogs, good in type, full of substance, and possessed of frame and legs that indicate endurance. It seems inexplicable that judges who patronise field trials should favour type and quality alone, and discard the other more valuable points by placing in the money dogs that could not stand the moderate strain of one hour's gallop on the moor. The high quality, undersized weed should be assigned his proper place. The setter at work is expected to gallop the greater part of the day, not ten to fifteen minutes, the time usually allowed a brace in a field-trial heat. The weed may accomplish a short spin; such trial, however, does not establish his staying powers, from which the bag is made.

## STANDARD OF POINTS OF THE ENGLISH SETTER

(English Setter Club's)

HEAD.—Should be long and lean, with a well-defined stop. The skull oval from ear to ear, showing plenty of brain room, and with a well-defined occipital protuberance. The muzzle moderately deep and fairly square; from the stop to the point of the nose should be long, the nostrils wide, and the jaws of nearly equal length, flews not to be pendulous. The colour of the nose should be black, or dark or light liver, according to the colour of the coat. The eyes should be bright, mild, and intelligent, and of a dark hazel colour—the darker the better. The ears of moderate length, set on low and hanging in neat folds close to the cheeks; the tips should be velvety, the upper part clothed with fine, silky hair.

NECK.—Should be rather long, muscular, and lean; slightly arched at the crest, and clean cut where it joins the head; towards the shoulder it should be larger and very muscular, not throaty or any pendulosity below the throat, but elegant and bloodlike in appearance.

BODY.—Should be of moderate length, with shoulders well set back, or oblique; back, short and level; loins, wide, slightly arched, strong, and muscular. Chest, deep in the brisket, with good, round, widely-sprung ribs; deep in the back ribs—that is, well ribbed up.

LEGS AND FEET.—Stifles well bent and ragged; thighs, long from hip to hock. The fore arm big and very muscular; the elbow well let down. Pasterns, short, muscular, and straight. The feet, very close and compact, and well protected by hair between the toes.

TAIL.—Should be set on almost in a line with the body, medium length, not curly or ropy, to be slightly curved or scimitar shaped, but with no tendency to turn upwards,—the flag or feather hanging in long pendant flakes. The feather should not commence at the root, but slightly below, and increase in length to the middle, then gradually taper off towards the end: and the hair long, bright, soft, silky, and wavy, but not curly.

COAT AND FEATHERING.—The coat, from the back of the head in a line with the ears, ought to be slightly wavy, long, and silky, which should be the case with the coat generally; the breeches and fore legs, nearly down to the feet, should be well feathered.

COLOUR AND MARKINGS.—The colour may be either black and white, lemon and white, liver and white, or tricolour—that is, black, white, and tan; those without heavy patches of colour on the body, but flecked all over, preferred.

## THE IRISH SETTER

The Irish setter, like the Irish terrier and the Irish water spaniel, is a red dog, or, to be more explicit, a golden chesnut, and in this respect the three purely Irish breeds present a strange coincidence in their ground-colouring. The breed of Irish setters was originally red and white, and many of this colour, now considered quite inadmissible, were exhibited in the early days of dog shows. The Irish Red Setter Club, it may be noticed in passing, goes somewhat out of its way to interpolate the word "red," which would indicate by inference that there were Irish setters "other than red." On the other hand, there are those who admit the existence of a red and white coloured setter in Ireland, but deny that it was the "Irish setter," but a variety imported from England. Speculations like these are of little account in these days, when the Irish setter has been decreed a red dog. Richardson, who wrote in the first half of the nineteenth century, mentions the "yellowish red" Irish setters, and describes them as the

*Miss Lillie Parker, photo.*

IRISH SETTER.

*Ch.* WINIFRED.

PLATE XXI.

genuine, unmixed descendants of the original land spaniel, and states that as much as £100 was a not unusual price to pay for a good specimen; whilst other stories apprise it at a greater value than this in the records of certain transactions. One fact seems to be pretty certain: the dog is one of considerable antiquity, and has a character for spirit and energy quite in keeping with the characteristics common to the people of his native land.

I am indebted to Mrs. Ingle-Bepler for the following charming description of an "ideal" Irish setter, which gives a vivid and eloquent word picture of this beautiful breed:—

MRS. INGLE-BEPLER'S IDEAL IRISH SETTER.—I see him in my mind's eye—my ideal Irish setter! Every inch a king of sportsmen, he stands well up at the shoulders, his head carried high, his wide nostrils expanding to inhale some subtle, delicious scent that my duller olfactory nerves cannot distinguish. There he stands, awaiting the command to "go on!" his strong, straight fore legs planted firmly beneath him, as true in front as a terrier, with strong pasterns and on close, round feet.

His long muscular neck is well set into oblique shoulders, fine at the points, which slope in a graceful line to his wide, strong, and slightly-arched hindquarters. His chest is deep, his ribs well-sprung. Not only can he go fast, but he can stay.

His curved stifles and well-bent, short hocks give an *élan* and propelling power to his movements that no straight-stifled dog can possess. His handsome flag, carried just below the level of his back, lashes gaily from side to side, indicating his satisfaction at things in general and his good-will to all men.

His evenly-balanced head is a study of beauty and intelligence. The skull is long, rather narrow, oval from ear to ear, with the occiput well marked, raised brows, and a well-defined stop. His muzzle is long and fairly deep, the level jaws giving a nice square finish to it. From stop to nose-tip the line is level, with no suspicion of a downward curve. A Roman-nosed setter usually goes for foot scent, and rarely carries his head high; a flat-headed, stopless setter is often of poor intelligence.

My ideal setter has beautifully-placed ears, low-set, and

hanging close to his head. His eyes are soft and dark, not too large or full. His expression is deep and alert, with a touch of impudence in it, and more than a touch of affection. He is full of "blarney" when off duty, and loves a joke like all his countrymen. Nor is he averse to a friendly brush with other "bhoys" in leisure moments, "for the sake of ould Ireland so green"! But he is not quarrelsome.

In colour my ideal setter matches a newly-shelled chesnut, a rich glossy red, and when the sun shines on his gorgeous coat there are steel-blue glints in it. He stands about 25 inches at the shoulder, and every part of his body is in harmonious proportion. Content to be a thing of grace and beauty, he despises the present craze for undue size, in which type and symmetry are being abandoned. Finally, he moves with easy action and fluency, holds himself nobly, and

> . . . looks the whole world in the face,
> For he fears not any man!

Criticisms of the type as it exists to-day run as follows:—

MRS. INGLE-BEPLER.—There is a tendency to sacrifice type in order to get great size and ultra long heads. A typical Irish setter's head should be well-domed, evenly balanced, with well-raised brows, well-defined stop, and a fairly deep muzzle, with the squareness of depth carried to its end. One sees too many of the borzoi type nowadays, with ultra long narrow heads, little or no stop, and muzzles tapering to a point like those of greyhounds. The short, thick heads of thirty years ago are also objectionable, but as a rule those dogs were better workers. I think the value of the points is correct, but very few judges—at least all-rounders—stick to them. Take colour, for instance,—eight points; yet if a setter be well nigh perfection in make and shape, and have a coat two or three shades too light, it will certainly be put behind an animal of inferior build, but possessing the deep-red coat. Apart from their use as gun-dogs, Irish setters appeal to me by their extreme beauty. Their coats excel in colour and quality, and yet are not so profuse as to hide the lovely lines of the dog's build, as is the case in heavier coated breeds. Setters are so graceful in their movements; and last, but not least, they are so affectionate, intelligent, and faithful, and have very reliable tempers. Perhaps the greatest fancier in this breed was the late Rev. R. O'Callaghan. I fancy one of his field-trial winners made the record price in setters; I allude to *Coleraine*, winner of the K.C. Derby stakes.

She was sold on the field for £270. My *Lady Honora* is own sister to this bitch, and I have in my kennels representatives of three of Mr. O'Callaghan's famous strains — namely, those descended from Champions *Shandon* and *Aveline*, Ch. *Geraldine* and Ch. *Tyrconnel*. I received my "education" in Irish setters from Mr. O'Callaghan, and I shall never falter in my affection and admiration for them.

MR. R. MACNAMEE.—The breed of Irish setters never possessed so many good ones of the highest quality as it does now. There is a great uniformity of type, and less faddism than formerly existed among judges of the breed. One very notable fact in connection with Irish setters is that so many animals of champion rank on the show-bench have been winners at field trials as well, and this I think has greatly contributed to their prominent position the world over. I do not know to-day, or remember a setter of any other variety of show-bench animal of which the same could be said. The pity is that so few friends of this breed can afford to compete with them at field trials in England—to some extent caused as well by there being so few trainers in Ireland capable of training and finishing off a dog for this purpose. The breed has largely suffered from the apparent defect of one of its really best qualities. The Irish setter has had a bad reputation, from its high courage, and consequent difficulty in training, with the result that gamekeepers have given him a bad name from their inability to study the dog's nature, and train him accordingly. The breed is, however, coming gradually to the front, and good dogs command high prices. At shows they now generally outnumber all the other varieties of setters. To the sportsmen the Irish setter possesses many qualities that appeal very strongly. For nose and intelligence he is second to none, and for staying qualities the superior of all. He also retrieves naturally when allowed to—particularly from water.

The following are the points of the Irish setter, taken from the publication of the *Irish Red Setter Club*:—

### STANDARD OF POINTS OF THE IRISH SETTER

HEAD.—Should be long and lean. The skull oval from ear to ear, having plenty of brain room, and with well defined occipital protuberance. Brows raised, showing stop. The muzzle moderately deep, and fairly square at end. From the stop to the point of the nose should be long, the nostrils wide, and the jaws of nearly equal length, flews not to

be pendulous. The colour of the nose dark mahogany or dark walnut, and that of the eyes (which ought not to be too large) rich hazel or brown. The ears ought to be of moderate size, fine in texture, set on low, well back, and hanging in a neat fold close to the head.

NECK.—Should be moderately long, very muscular, but not too thick; slightly arched, and free from all tendency to throatiness.

BODY.—Should be long. Shoulders fine at the points, deep, and sloping well back. Chest as deep as possible, rather narrow in front. The ribs well sprung, having plenty of lung room. Loins muscular, and slightly arched. The hindquarters wide and powerful.

LEGS AND FEET.—The hind legs, from the hip to the hock, should be long and muscular; from hock to heel, short and strong. The stifle and hock joints well bent, and not inclined either in or out. The fore legs should be straight and sinewy, having plenty of bone, with elbows free, well let down, and, like the hocks, not inclined in or out. The feet small, very firm; toes strong, close together, and arched.

TAIL.—Should be of moderate length, set on rather low, strong at root, and tapering to a fine point; to be carried as nearly as possible on a level with or below the back.

COAT.—On the head, front of legs, and tips of ears should be short and fine, but on all other parts of the body and legs it ought to be of moderate length, flat, and as free as possible from curl or wave.

FEATHERING.—The feather on the upper portion of the ears should be long and silky; on the back of fore and hind legs long and fine; a fair amount of hair on the belly, forming a nice fringe, which may extend on chest and throat. Feet to be well feathered between the toes. Tail to have a nice fringe of moderately long hair, decreasing in length as it approaches the point. All feathering to be as straight and flat as possible.

COLOUR AND MARKINGS.—The colour should be a rich golden chesnut, with no trace whatever of black; white on chest, throat, or toes, or small star on forehead, or a narrow streak or blaze on the nose or face not to disqualify.

POINT VALUES—

| | |
|---|---|
| Head | 10 |
| Eyes | 6 |
| Ears | 4 |
| Neck | 4 |
| Body | 20 |
| Hind legs and feet | 10 |
| Fore legs and feet | 10 |
| Tail | 4 |
| Coat and feather | 10 |
| Colour | 8 |
| Size, style, general appearance | 14 |
| Total | 100 |

## THE GORDON SETTER

This variety of the setter gained its title from having been first bred by the Duke of Richmond and Gordon at Gordon Castle, and has sometimes been called the "Scotch," as well as the black and tan setter. "Idstone" dates the year of its appearance back to 1820, when the Duke of Gordon of that day interested himself in the breed. It was a bigger and coarser dog than others of its race, and its colour, the dewlap it carried, and the haw it showed suggested a not very remote dash of bloodhound blood. In *Dogs of Scotland* it is stated that when these setters first began to stand out as a strain apart, they were of different colours, black and tan, black, white and tan, liver and white, black and white, and sometimes even lemon and white. The black and tans were the commonest, but the shade of tan was lighter than to-day, and the dogs often had white breasts and feet. They had somewhat of the spaniel type of ears, beautiful heads, and very profuse coats and feathering. Another writer on the breed, Mr. Harry Malcolm, says that when first introduced into England about 1859, the Gordon setter was of immense size—too big, in fact, to please the majority of English sportsmen. He mentions a famous dog called *Kent*, whose grand head and rich colour drew a considerable amount of attention to him. He did a lot of winning at early dog shows, not without running the gauntlet of some hard names, such as "cur," "mongrel," and "half bloodhound," but his owner, Mr. Pearce, was so convinced of the purity and working ability of his strain, that he offered to place a whelp with Mr. Malcolm, to be brought up where he could not possibly see game, and at the age of nine or ten months to be introduced to it, when he

prophesied the Gordon would do him credit. The arrangement was carried out, and when it came to the test, the puppy not only beat his ground in fine style, but at the end of a few hours began to stand his birds as only a well-bred setter will do. The pup was by *Kent* out of a bitch called *Regent*, and the *Kent* strain runs strong in the breed to this day. Mr. Malcolm, I should mention, is President of the American Gordon Setter Club.

The Gordon strain no longer exists at Gordon Castle, and it is probable that the old type is entirely lost. Indeed the variety has fallen upon evil days. Mr. Rawdon Lee writes: "There is no doubt a screw loose somewhere in the Gordon setter, else he would be more popular than he now appears to be. With the earlier field trials he had much to do; with the later ones next to nothing. Some dogs are slow and stupid, others fast and disobedient, and as a fact I have seen very few Gordon setters performing at field trials during the past dozen years or more, and I think this absence must be taken as a proof positive that he is not as good as either the English or the Irish strains." In a contiguous passage Mr. Lee gives a most amusing account of his own experiences with a Gordon setter that was made a gift to him. It had cost 30 guineas in Scotland as a broken dog. "But its breaking was a myth, and its value in shillings. . . . He was no use to me, so I gave him away. This Gordon setter was good-looking, and from a strain that bore a reputation of being 'pure even amongst the pure'; but his manners and appearance were too hound-like to please me."

On the other hand, there are those who greatly fancy the breed, and in America and France it has become exceedingly popular. Mr. Malcolm says: "I have never gone afield with a dog that has given me so

much genuine satisfaction in every way as my Gordon setters. Neither have I seen their equal in nose, obedience, staunchness, and speed. When the nature of the ground will permit he is one of the fleetest dogs of the setter breed. At his work he is naturally a high-headed dog, always seeking for the body scent of his game. When the weather is such as to require it, he is quick to take the foot scent as well. His natural instinct is developed in a marked degree, and it leads him to know where to look for his game without racing over ground, which is so characteristic of setters of other strains."

The following are the opinions of my contributors on the type of Gordon setter as it exists to-day :—

MR. HARDING COX.—The race of Gordon setters has dwindled down, and specimens of the old type have almost disappeared. A judicious cross with the Irish setter would probably revive a very acceptable type. Such a union would be sure to produce some reds, and some black and tans. In fact I know a case where youngsters of the same litter so bred were shown and won respectively in the two sections.

DR. CHARLES REID.—The breed, as a whole, shows an improvement in the last twenty years, and at exhibitions the type is more even. There has been rather a tendency of recent years to produce too small dogs, and at the present time there are few dogs of outstanding merit. There is also too great a tendency in my opinion to breed for length of head, especially from eyes forward, with corresponding sacrifice of cranium proper, and therefore loss of brain power. I fancy points are of little value, but if they are to be used, then a greater number should be given to shoulders and chest; twelve points for these, compared with thirty-five for head, is much too low when you consider the importance of these in a dog used for sport. I find them hardy, good dogs, and good stayers. Their bright affectionate disposition and their beautiful colour attract. In recent years a cross with the Irish setter has been introduced.

MR. JAMES EMERY.—I consider many Gordon setters of the present day are bearing too much on the Irish setter side, and not big or heavy enough. Judges at shows should not forget that

Gordons should be much heavier dogs than English or Irish setters. I prefer a Gordon setter to any other breed for sporting purposes; my dog always answers the purpose of retriever as well as setter. They are the most deadly dog a man can shoot over.

The following essay, description, and Standard of Points is issued by the book published by the *Gordon Setter Club*:—

There seems to be little authentic information as to the origin of the Gordon setter. Authorities, however, agree that the original colour was black, white and tan, and, in the opinion of the late Dr. Walsh ("Stonehenge"), that the dog is a compound of collie, bloodhound, and English or Irish setter, and that the foundation of the breed was derived from a mixture of these. This is to a large extent borne out by the general character of the dog as exhibited in the best specimens. Of late years no doubt the breed has been tampered with for show purposes, and crosses, more particularly with the Irish setter, with the idea of improving the colour, have been resorted to, to the detriment of the dog, both for show-bench and field purposes. Probably the pale buff in the place of tan frequently verging on stone colour, and the diffusion over the body, instead of being developed on the recognised points, is mainly due to this cause; if so it will require careful breeding through many generations to eradicate. In the best Gordons we almost invariably find the leading features of the collie, the bloodhound, and the setter, and perhaps in about equal proportions, giving what we call type. The head of the Gordon is much heavier than that of the English setter, broad at the top between the ears, the skull slightly rounded, the occiput well developed, and the depth from the occiput to the lower jaw much greater than in the Laverack or English setter. The width between the eyes should perhaps not be too great, speaking with caution; the nose moderately long and broad across the top, giving room for the nerves of scent; in fact, the opposite of snipey-ness; the nostrils well distended, making this the widest part of the nose; the shape of the under jaw is perhaps a matter of fancy; old *Kent* had a very heavy muzzle and under jaw, with remarkably bright and penetrating eyes; in these his likeness has been transmitted to many of his descendants in a remarkable degree. Many Gordons show slight haw and dewlap; a proper development of these is probably true type. The ears vary considerably, some being long, silky, and hanging close to the face; others much shorter; these are also matters of fancy, and therefore of minor importance. The body of the Gordon is also much heavier than that of the English setter, but may be judged on the same lines. The tail is often long, giving bad carriage; this does not interfere with good work. The great beauty of this dog is his lovely colour, and as this in perfection is in no way antagonistic to his working qualities, great prominence should be given to it in judging. Formerly, without doubt, the prevailing colours were black, white and tan, but of late there has but little white been seen on the bench; this, too, is a matter of fancy. The black should be jet, not

brown or rusty; the tan should be a rich, dark mahogany colour, and should be exhibited on inside of thighs, showing down front of stifle to the ground, and on the front legs to the knees. The muzzle should also be tan, the spots over the eyes well defined, not blurred, and on the points of the shoulder also. Blurring and diffusing over the belly and other parts of the dog probably indicate contamination with other blood. It is of the highest importance, if we are to get back the real hunting qualities of this breed and the show qualities also, that purity of blood should be the chief aim in the breeding; a first cross may sometimes appear to answer, but succeeding generations will certainly show the cross, and will deteriorate in all the qualities we prize. A splendid intelligence, fine scenting powers, and great endurance are the main characteristics of the Gordon breed. If purity of blood is maintained we may not only recover the qualities which some fear we have partly lost, but also develop their natural powers to an extent hitherto unknown. A well formed head is of the first importance if we are to develop and maintain the intelligence which is the great charm and usefulness of the dog.

POINT VALUES—

| | |
|---|---|
| Head and neck | 35 |
| Shoulders and chest | 12 |
| Loin and quarter | 12 |
| Feet and legs | 16 |
| Colour | 10 |
| Coat, feather, and quality | 10 |
| Tail | 5 |
| Total | 100 |

Not having been able to reach by correspondence the Honorary Secretary of the Gordon Setter Club, I have extracted this Standard of Points from Mr. Rawdon Lee's article on the breed; and a very remarkable standard it seems to me, and decidedly original in comparison with other similar pronunciamientos. About this breed and its requisite qualities and their values there has existed a great difference of opinion, as may be gathered from the following two scales of point values, the first from a dog book published about thirty-three years ago, and the second from the scale adopted by the Gordon Setter Club in America:—

Scale of 1870.—Head and nose, 20; ears and neck, 5; legs and feet, 12; elbows, hocks, and stifles, 8; shoulders and chest, 15; back and

hindquarters, 18; colour, coat, and symmetry, 10; quality and flag, 12—total, 100.

American Gordon Setter Club.—Head, muzzle, and nose, 15; ears, eyes, and lips, 5; neck, 5; shoulders and chest, 15; back, loins, and thighs, 15; legs, feet, elbows, and hocks, 15; stern and flag, 8; colour and markings, 8; texture of coat and feather, 6; symmetry and quality, 8—total, 100.

Such variations as are here shown of the appreciation of individual points are confusing, and leave the impression that the breed wants its actual type laid down with more exactitude to bring it to a stricter "standard."

The *English Setter Club* consists of nearly fifty members, and is controlled by a president, six vice-presidents, a chairman of committee, and fourteen committee men. It also issues a list of sixteen judges. The subscription is one guinea a year, and Mr. George Potteris the Honorary Secretary. The *Irish Red Setter Club*, of which Mr. S. Brown is Honorary Secretary, issues no list of members; the subscription is a guinea.

The English setter illustrating this section is *Moll O' Leck*, bred and owned by Mr. R. R. P. Wearing. She is by Ch. *Rumney Rock* ex *Barton Maud*, and was born in July 1902. Her owner describes her as "a heavily blue-ticked setter, with a good, long, lean head; square muzzle; dark hazel eyes; good ears, set on low; a nice long muscular neck; good shoulders; deep chest, and free from any suspicion of throatiness. She is short on the back, and her ribs are well sprung; the best of legs and feet; well bent stifles; a capital coat, and a well-feathered, short, beautifully carried stern." She ought to have a great future before her, as she won a championship and several prizes, including two seconds at Birmingham, almost before she was out of her puppyhood. Mr. Wearing considers *Moll* and her litter sister *Meg O' Leck* about the two best setters he has bred in his long experience.

The Irish setter I have selected for illustration is Ch. *Winifred*, bred by the late Rev. R. O'Callaghan, and the property of Mrs. Ingle-Bepler. *Winifred* is by Ch. *Sullivan* ex *Erne II.*, and was whelped in April 1895. She is of a dark chesnut colour, without any white, and stands 24½ inches at the shoulder. She is the winner of seven championships and over a

hundred prizes, and the dam of many winners, including Ch. *Bobby Hideheuvel.* Mrs. Ingle-Bepler describes her as follows: "*Winifred's* eyes are a luminous brown, very expressive; ears, set on very low, hang in a beautiful fold close to the head; tail is short, well feathered, and perfectly carried,—in fact her beautiful action and perfect carriage of tail have often won the day for her when competing for sporting special prizes with various breeds of sporting dogs. The colour and quality of her coat are superb; colour a dark, yet glossy and brilliant chesnut, reflecting every ray of sunshine; quality fine and perfectly flat, with long, self-coloured fringes. She is perfectly clean in throat, has a muscular arched neck, very well sprung ribs, deep chest, strong loin and hindquarters. She has big bone, beautiful legs and feet, curved stifles, and low, well-bent hocks. She is 'field-trial trained,' and was a beautiful worker, but has not been used lately. Looking at her in the most critical spirit, I do not honestly think there is any point in which she could be improved."

## THE SPANIEL

THE spaniel family is assuredly one of the most interesting in the dog-world, as demonstrating the art of dog development—more particularly during the last three or four decades. The name embraces at least ten well-defined classifications, divided into two sections—land and water spaniels—and including the Clumber, Sussex, black field, variety field, springer or Norfolk, Welsh, black cocker, and variety cocker. ("Variety," I may explain, means any other variety than black in colour.) The water spaniels include the English and Irish types. Two of these ten tribes, the Norfolk and the Welsh, are regarded with distrust by some leading experts in the fancy, who cast doubts upon their authenticity or distinctiveness of strain. It is not for me to adventure an opinion, as I am but the vehicle of the views of others. So, like a good feeder, I accept what I can get, and having been offered information and illustration of both Norfolk and Welsh spaniels, I share them with my readers,—but at the same time with profound excuses to those acknowledged authorities in the spaniel-world who have assured me there are properly no such breeds in existence!

The spaniel is one of our oldest dogs in its original shape and form—though what that might have been you certainly could not gather from some of the modern

TOWER.

*E. Landor, photo.*

*Ch.* BAILIE FRIAR.

CLUMBER SPANIELS.

PLATE XXII.

specimens of the breed. Originally spaniels came from Spain (from whence they derived their name), and the royal Edmund de Langley, in his *Maister of Game*, written early in the fifteenth century, mentions them at some length, and thus indisputably endows them with a history of at least six hundred years in our country. According to this authority, they were "clepid houndis for ye hauke," and flourished in other lands besides Spain, "a fair hound, having many good customs and evil, with a great head and a great body, and a fair hue, white or tawny; not too jough (wavy), but his tail should be rough; loving his master well, and following him without losing, though he be in a great press of men; and their right craft the hunting of the partridge and the quail." Also they were great "baffers," or barkers.

Dame Juliana Berners and Dr. Caius both mention the breed; the latter describes them as "the most part of their skynnes white, and if they are marked with any spottes, they are commonly red." Many other old writers have discoursed about the breed, from Nicholas Cox and Gervase Markham to Oliver Goldsmith, who, in his *History of Animals*, writes: "There are two varieties of land spaniel—namely, the slater, used in hawking to spring game, and the setter, that crouches down when it scents birds till the net be drawn over them."

The development of the spaniel on the lines which have come to be considered perfect in these days does not date back far. Take up any book published fifty or sixty years ago, and you will find the spaniel depicted decidedly a leggy beast, often with exaggerated ears on a snipey-muzzled head. Reinagle only leaves us illustrations of a springer and a water spaniel; they are both very much alike in shape and formation, and

without calling them cobby and leggy, they are certainly the opposite of "long and low," which is the accepted creed of the modern spaniel fancier. Elsewhere I have come across illustrations of ancient types that were distinctly houndy in the leg—of the sort that ought to be able to gallop in the flesh. To-day, of all the illustrations I am able to give, many of really peerless show-bench champions, only the Norfolk and the Welsh bear an affinity to the spaniel of Reinagle's time. Can it be that they are outcaste for this deviation from accepted modern development? Does their retention of harmonious canine symmetry disqualify them for consideration in a world where abnormal length and abnormal lowness combine to create a creature which to some eyes seems absurd? These are questions I would rather ask than answer; and as to how they came to be suggested I refer my readers to the illustrations of the two breeds named, and of Reinagle's types. For the rest, could De Langley or Dame Juliana Berners or Dr. Caius revisit this sphere, and turn over the spaniel illustrations in this volume, I can imagine them knitting their brows, and wondering what sort of an animal each and every is—with the exception of the Norfolk and the Welshman. All of which, I doubt not, is foul heresy; and so to my allotted task.

Before proceeding to deal with the various classes of spaniels I must allot a paragraph to the Spaniel Club, which has done and is doing so much for the breed, and a good portion of the paragraph to the courteous and spaniel-learned Honorary Secretary, Mr. John S. Cowell. To this gentleman I am not only indebted for some very valuable contributions on several of the spaniel varieties, but for much advice as to where to seek for information, and the best subjects to select for illustration as truly typical of their respective breeds.

Mainly through Mr. Cowell's instrumentality,—in some cases through his personal exertion,—I have been able to secure a gallery of spaniel illustrations which I do not think has been excelled in any other book on the dog. And it is a particularly pleasing duty for me to express the great obligations I labour under towards him for many of the details which have gone to make up this section of my book. The Spaniel Club is, perhaps, the best of all the specialist clubs; its publications are certainly a model; the booklet descriptive of the Standards of Points of the varieties of spaniels contains a mine of information in a most convenient form, and the Annual Report cannot fail to be of interest to those in the fancy. The club consists of over a hundred members; the Duke of Portland, K.G., is President, and there is a committee of twenty, a full honorary official staff, with bankers, solicitors, and honorary veterinary surgeons. In fact, here you may see the specialist club in its fullest development. The year 1903 has seen the foundation of a special club medal, on which are reproduced the heads of five of the most typical dogs in the various breeds—namely, an Irish water spaniel, Clumber, Sussex, black field, and cocker spaniels; for this medal a special die has been made, so that winners of these valuable rewards are ensured an artistic and pleasing memento of their fancy. The 1903 report calls attention to an "inadequacy of classification," and foreshadows certain changes, and I have reason to suppose that one of these will be the removal of the Norfolk spaniel from the category in which it stands at present.

## THE CLUMBER SPANIEL

The Clumber spaniel takes its name from Clumber, the seat of the Duke of Newcastle; as an English

breed it dates back about a hundred and fifty years, the first dogs of the strain, according to Daniel, having been given to the Duke of the day by the Duc de Noailles, whereby they presumably came from France. They proved themselves such admirable sporting dogs that the breed was carefully fostered, and much valued by subsequent inheritors of the kennel, and one picture depicts them as details in a portrait of the fourth Duke in 1807, when they were called by a contemporary writer "springers or cock-flushers." Their type has changed less than any other modern spaniel, according to Mr. Rawdon Lee, which he accounts for by their being a comparatively modern introduction. The distinctive colour of this breed is white with lemon markings on the ears, and it should be of low, heavy, massive build, and carry a thoughtful expression on its face. As I have a great many contributions on this breed, I will leave them to speak for themselves.

HER GRACE THE DUCHESS OF NEWCASTLE.—It is a pretty sight to see the Clumbers act as beaters drawing the coverts, but in these days of big shoots they are too slow for real, hard work, and are more suited for a small sporting day with three or four guns, who take pleasure in seeing the dogs work. Clumbers are, I fear, on the downward path; fresh blood with any merit is hard to find; in-breeding has resulted in losing the real spaniel head and expression, and also the beautiful lemon marking, so seldom seen now. I do not think that there is any living dog that really stands away from other good specimens, and there is room for some really good new ones to come out.

MR. JOHN S. COWELL.—We have no Clumbers worthy of the name to-day, when we remember Ch. *John O' Gaunt*, *Tower*, the beautiful *Fairy III.*, and others of their high standard. We are losing, if we have not already lost, the principal characteristics and cardinal points of a Clumber,—the massive head, lemon markings, the true vine-leaf shaped ears, also size and bone. Perhaps the most conspicuous fault is the dark marking, which often approaches orange if not liver. I hope I may be wrong, but I despair of ever seeing such Clumbers again as those I have

mentioned, as I fail to see how the present breeding stock can produce the correct type. Fortunately the sporting instincts of Clumbers has not deteriorated in the same degree as their show points. On the contrary, they have won almost all the principal stakes at our field-trial meetings, and this may be accounted for by the fact that the largest kennels, such as the Duke of Portland's, the Duke of Newcastle's, the Duke of Northumberland's, and the Duke of Westminster's, are in the hands of noblemen and gentlemen who use them for shooting purposes, principally working them in teams. I am not aware that Clumbers are either as fascinating or as affectionate as the other varieties of spaniels; they are slower in movement, thoughtful, and somewhat sullen in temperament, and I have known specimens which have been decidedly vicious; but the success which they have gained at field trials has caused a great boom in the breed, and probably injudicious and haphazard breeding will account for the inferior specimens exhibited at present.

MR. F. E. SCHOLFIELD.—I am not satisfied with present type, but I am more than satisfied with the progress it is making. The breed is again improving by leaps and bounds; colour, size, correct quality of coat and Clumber expression are the chief requirements.

MR. F. WINTON SMITH.—There are no Clumbers large enough to-day, and very few have the true Clumber expression, such as was seen in *John O' Gaunt*, *Tower*, and others. I consider a Clumber is easier to train than any other spaniel, and, if bred from working stock, is seldom hard-mouthed or guilty of any chasing proclivities. For all round purposes by far the best dog to shoot over.

MR. ROBERT N. ALLEN.—I do not consider the ordinary Clumber of to-day a credit to the breed,—so many lack correct proportions, and are too highly coloured. Clumbers are very sensible, and when once under control, useful with the gun.

MR. LOUIS J. PETTIT.—I think that the Clumber of the present day could be much improved upon by judges at the shows giving the awards to bitches with big, massive heads, as the general run of bitches are inclined to get snipey about the nose. I also think that the younger dogs should have more encouragement in this breed, as they are not at their best until they are about eight years old. I keep Clumbers for work, as I do not consider any other spaniel works like them; they are mute and will work singly as well as in a pack. Then again you can always see them on account of their colour, and I think

any man who has shot over a good Clumber will never want to shoot over any other spaniel.

MR. W. T. S. TILLEY.—I am not satisfied with type if required for the work they were originally intended and bred for; they are bred too large to walk for two hours, instead of eight! And their St. Bernard-like jaws are too short to retrieve and carry game. This shape of jaw should be discouraged, and the real lemon markings more highly valued. More than five points should be given for the positive lemon, being so much harder to get than the orange; and points should be given for boldness and intelligence, many being exceedingly shy, which is fatal for a sportsman's dog. I like them because they are so intelligent, particularly showy, with usefulness combined; at work they can always be quickly seen in comparison with blacks and liver-coloured. They work mutely, and are generally of an amiable disposition.

MR. T. A. PAGE.—I am not altogether satisfied with type; I would like to see better heads, paler markings, and darker eyes. I consider Clumbers in appearance the most handsome of spaniels, and prefer them for the quick way they learn their work, their steadiness, good noses, and light mouths. In point values I think more should be apportioned to legs and feet.

MR. CHARLES FRUEN.—The tendency of to-day is to size instead of to type and substance. All over a given weight ought to be disqualified, as it tends to spoil the breed by going to leg and snipey head. The point values should be increased for head and hindquarter formation, also for Clumber carriage. The true type of Clumber is not sufficiently known amongst to-day breeders. Judges in awarding prizes should consider more the working points, and style and movement, which is so characteristic of the Clumber perfect. I have bred, broken, and shot over Clumbers hard for more than thirty years, and to-day like them better than ever; and with pleasure look back to the time when *Psycho* won for me his first champion prize. A brace or team for cover shooting cannot be bettered, as they are very easy to break and handle, and drop to wing, shot, or fur work close and mute. And they are gentle and companionable.

MR. F. SAUNDERS.—The Clumber being a sporting dog, I would not sacrifice type to head, as I have been disappointed at seeing done several times, when head has carried the day against body and legs. The Clumber is the most perfect companion. When properly broken and built on lines such as they should

be, it is the most perfect all-round dog for the gun to be found —steady, sure, and tender mouthed.

My illustration represents the celebrated Clumber spaniel Ch. *Bailie Friar*, by *Sandy Friar* out of *Reckless Friar*, generally considered by far the best Clumber of recent years. He was the property of Mr. Harding Cox, won eleven championships and over fifty first prizes, and came to a most unfortunate end, being suffocated in his travelling box on the way to Clacton Show in 1900. He was a large, heavy specimen of the breed; white, with the true lemon markings, and of the grand, true old-fashioned type, with great skull measurement and enormous bone. His coat was perfection. He was the sire of many winners, including *Bailie* junior, who nearly suffered a similar fate to his father, with whom he was in the same box.

Thanks to the courtesy of Mr. J. S. Cowell, I am also able to give a vignette of the head of the Clumber spaniel *Tower*, who was considered to possess the most typical Clumber "expression" in the breed.

STANDARD OF POINTS OF THE CLUMBER SPANIELS

HEAD.—Large, square, and massive, of medium length, broad on top, with a decided occiput; heavy brows with a deep stop; heavy, freckled muzzle, with well-developed flew.

EYES.—Dark amber, slightly sunk, and showing haw.

EARS.—Large, vine-leaf shaped, and well covered with straight hair and hanging slightly forward, the feather not to extend below the leather.

NECK.—Very thick and powerful, and well feathered underneath.

BODY (including size and symmetry).—Long and heavy, and near the ground. Weight of dogs, about 55 lbs. to 65 lbs.; bitches, about 45 lbs. to 55 lbs.

NOSE.—Square and flesh-coloured.

SHOULDERS AND CHEST.—Wide and deep; shoulders strong and muscular.

BACK AND LOIN.—Back straight, broad, and long; loin powerful, well let down in flank.

HINDQUARTERS.—Very powerful and well developed.

STERN.—Set low, well feathered, and carried about level with the back.

FEET AND LEGS.—Feet large and round, well covered with hair; legs short, thick, and strong; hocks low.

COAT.—Long, abundant, soft, and straight.

COLOUR.—Plain white, with lemon markings; orange permissible but not desirable; slight head markings with white body preferred.

GENERAL APPEARANCE.—Should be that of a long, low, heavy, very massive dog, with a thoughtful expression.

VALUE OF POINTS—

*Positive Points*

| | |
|---|---|
| Head and jaw | 20 |
| Eyes | 5 |
| Ears | 5 |
| Neck | 5 |
| Body | 15 |
| Fore legs | 5 |
| Hind legs | 5 |
| Feet | 5 |
| Stern | 5 |
| Colour of markings | 10 |
| Coat and feather | 10 |
| General appearance | 10 |
| Total positive points | 100 |

*Negative Points*

| | |
|---|---|
| Curled ears | 10 |
| Curled coat | 20 |
| Bad carriage of tail | 10 |
| Snipey face | 15 |
| Legginess | 10 |
| Light eyes | 5 |
| Total negative points | 70 |

*E. J. Emeny, photo.*

*Ch.* BRIDFORD BREDABOY.

*H. Gordon Chase, photo.*

ROSEHILL ROCK.

SUSSEX SPANIELS.

PLATE XXIII.

## THE SUSSEX SPANIEL

THE Sussex spaniel is a smaller dog than the Clumber, and of a golden liver colour, which is the test of its purity, as any deviation in tint to a darker shade is proof presumptive of an out-cross. It is certain that a local strain of spaniels existed in Sussex a hundred years ago and more; at any rate the country had a reputation for producing good spaniels, as you may read in the *Sportsman's Cabinet.* But the recorded history of the modern Sussex spaniel only goes back to a comparatively recent date. I am obliged to Mr. Campbell Newington for an article on the breed, which he contributed to *Land and Water* many years ago, and deals with it from the established point of departure which carried it out of obscurity to the show-bench. The strain was in the possession of Mr. Fuller of Rosehill Park, near Hastings, who, in days long gone by, had many fine specimens. The breed had smaller ears then than at the period of Mr. Newington's article (1883), and was not feathered below the hock. Mr. Fuller was a great sportsman of the old school, who derived his satisfaction from a small bag brought to book over dogs, and won with hard work in the extensive woods that surrounded his mansion. He died in 1847; and as he had kept this strain of spaniels for fifty years, we are able to arrive at its

approximate antiquity. On his death Mrs. Fuller allowed Relf, the head gamekeeper, to select a couple of the spaniels from the kennel by way of a legacy, and from these emanated the pure-bred specimens that existed thirty-five years later. The rest of the kennel was sold, and realised "fabulous prices," which serves to show in what high esteem a strain, confessedly local, was held in those days. Descendants of the keeper's dogs have passed into the hands of Mr. Campbell Newington, whose kennel prefix is "Rosehill," and of Mr. Moses Woolland, and these two kennels represent the leading ones in the modern fancy.

In the article I am quoting from, Mr. Newington thus describes the Sussex spaniel of that period :—

> The Sussex spaniel is, without doubt, one of the most—if not the most—useful spaniels we have. It contains within itself all the most essential qualities for a sportsman—pluck, endurance, perseverance, and last, but not least, a most delicate nose. Owing to the thick texture of his coat, he is able to stand any amount of cold and wet; he is the most inquisitive mortal, every little piece of cover likely to hold game he searches into; his short, thick, powerful legs and grand loins, combined with strength and pluck, enable him to break through obstacles which no other dog would face. With his keen nose he is able to hunt a cold scent when no other spaniel would own it; in fact I have seen them hunt trail where the birds have been roosting at night, and where they have been feeding in the early morn. To my mind there is as much difference between a Sussex spaniel and a modern spaniel as between a good old southern hound and a modern harrier. . . . The Sussex spaniel was never what you may call a handsome, drawing-room dog; he was rather the opposite, somewhat coarse and strongly built, and bred to suit the country from whence he takes his name, where large woods abound, and the covers are thick and thorny, and where pluck and endurance are required to carry a dog through the day.

From this description of twenty years ago I pass to the same authority's views of what a modern Sussex spaniel should be.

MR. CAMPBELL NEWINGTON'S IDEAL SUSSEX SPANIEL.—Head large, not long or narrow; forehead rather round from back to front; stop not too deep; from stop to tip of nose, fairly short; well chiselled under the eyes; muzzle square; eyes large and hazel colour; ears, lobe-shaped, set fairly low, not too long; body, fairly long but well ribbed up, with good loin; stern, set on low and carried on a level with the back; legs, straight, with good bone, not too short, but by no means leggy; coat, golden liver, dense and wiry; legs well feathered, but not below the hocks. Weight about 50 to 55 lbs; bitches 45 lbs. More attention should be given to the coats. I find, from practical experience, the coats of the modern Sussex spaniels are too silky and soft for hard work; they are unable to stand the cold and wet, and will not face the bushes and brambles as they ought to do.

The following is Mr. Moses Woolland's description of a Sussex spaniel, as it should be:—

The head should be moderately long and wide, with a pronounced stop; brows fairly heavy; eye, hazel colour, large and languishing—a staring or yellow eye being most objectionable[1]; muzzle square, lips pendulous, and the mouth large; ears should be thick, fairly large, lobe-shaped, and set moderately low, well furnished with silky hair, and should hang close to the cheeks. The nose should be large and liver-coloured; neck strong and muscular; chest wide, and shoulders well thrown back; body long and barrel-shaped. Legs should be moderately short and very strong and muscular; feet round, well arched, and furnished with moderate feathering; loins should be very strong, and back ribs very deep and round; tail set low and not carried above the level of the back. Body-coat flat and abundant, moderately feathered on stern and on legs, but clean below the hocks; colour, rich golden liver,—dark liver or puce unmistakably denoting an out-cross with the field spaniel. The following measurements might be of interest:—Length from eye to nose, 3½ inches; length of fore leg, 9½ inches; from tip of nose to set on of tail, 33 inches; and in general appearance should be massive and muscular, with free movement and nice tail action, and should weigh about 45 lbs.

The following are the criticisms and notes on the breed which I have received from my contributors:—

MR. CAMPBELL NEWINGTON.—I am satisfied with the type of the present day, but should like to see them a trifle higher on the leg; this would render them much more useful for work. Sussex spaniels have been my only breed for twenty-two years. I use them for shooting over and for field trials, and consider they have better noses and are better scented than any other spaniel, provided the strain is right. They are very hardy, good retrievers, and stand wet and cold, provided they are not bred from parents with silky coats. I think Mr. Woolland's *Bridford Bredaboy* and *Bridford Daisy* the most typical dogs of the breed, but I must say their coats are not so thick and hard as my old "Rosehill" strain. For sporting purposes I consider the coat one of the most important points, and unless they are thick and hard the dogs cannot stand cold and wet, and soon get perished; also these two dogs might be a trifle higher on the leg, and they would then be more active in the field. I have exhibited Sussex spaniels for over twenty years, and have won just over four hundred prizes with them. My old dog *Laurie*, a son of Mr. Hudson's *Dash*, was considered by the late Dr. Williams the handsomest Sussex spaniel he had ever seen. I mated him with a beautiful bitch named *Lady Rosehill*, which came direct from Mr. Fuller's kennels. She had eleven puppies by him. My strain dates back to Ch. *Bachelor*, owned by Mr. Saxby, one of the best and most typical specimens ever whelped, and from whom the best modern Sussex spaniel strains are descended; also *Rosehill Ruler II.*, one of the best I have ever had, sire of my Ch. *Rosehill Rush*, who died last year, was bred from the same strain.

COL. R. CLAUDE CANE.—I am satisfied with the type of the Sussex spaniel as it exists to-day. I prefer the breed to others because it is an older and a purer breed, and on account of its beautiful colour; also because it is scarcer. In characteristics of temperament, etc., it differs very little from the other varieties.

MR. F. E. SCHOLFIELD.—I am satisfied with the type of Mr. Woolland's dogs.

MR. F. WINTON SMITH.—Personally I consider the dogs winning to-day too heavy, long and low to the ground. I like Mr. Newington's dogs, as being more workmanlike, and I have found the working qualities transmitted in dogs descended from the Rosehill strain.

A unanimous vote has been given for Ch. *Bridford Bredaboy* as the most typical Sussex spaniel living, and

Mr. Woolland has supplied me with a very good photograph, which I reproduce, as well as one of Mr. Campbell Newington's famous Rosehill strain.

Ch. *Bridford Bredaboy* was bred and is owned by Mr. Moses Woolland; by *Bridford Giddie* ex *Bridford Brida II.*, and was whelped in April 1892. He is of a golden liver colour, weighs 42 lbs., and his owner describes him as having a beautifully chiselled head, well balanced and proportioned throughout; eyes dark hazel; ears well placed; body long and deep, and well ribbed up; stern well placed and carried low; legs straight and powerful, with good bone; excellent feet; coat golden liver in colour, perfectly flat and the correct texture; is moderately feathered, as a Sussex spaniel should be. A splendid mover, and full of spaniel character. Has won three championships and prizes too numerous to mention

*Rosehill Rock*, bred and owned by Mr. Campbell Newington, is by *Bridford Bibelot* ex *Rosehill Rhonda*, and was born in October 1901. He stands 15 inches at the shoulder, weighs 50 lbs., and is the correct golden liver colour. His description runs: "Eyes large, round and hazel in colour; ears set on low; tail rather low, and never carried above the level of his back; coat straight and flat, dense and not silky; legs strong and bony, with plenty of feather, except on the hind legs below the hocks; hair on ears straight, with no curl; colour of coat correct. From an exhibition point of view *Rosehill Rock* might be considered by some judges to be an inch too high on the leg, but from a working point of view I think this is an advantage. The photograph is a perfect likeness of the dog, and cannot be improved. The dog is a very good retriever and worker, and won a certificate of merit at the last field trials, and his sister *Roshill Rag* has won the silver challenge cup twice for the best working Sussex spaniel at the trials. *Rock* is also a great winner on the show-bench."

The following Standard of Points is extracted from the book of the Spaniel Club; it will be observed that the limit of weight is given at 35 to 45 lbs., whilst Mr. Campbell Newington prefers a heavier dog for his "ideal."

## STANDARD OF POINTS OF THE SUSSEX SPANIEL

HEAD.—The skull should be moderately long and also wide, with an indentation in the middle and a full stop; brows fairly heavy; occiput full, but not pointed, the whole giving an appearance of heaviness without dulness.

EYES.—Hazel colour, fairly large, soft and languishing, not showing the haw overmuch.

NOSE.—The muzzle should be about 3 inches long, square, and the lips somewhat pendulous; the nostrils well developed and liver colour.

EARS.—Thick, fairly large, and lobe-shaped; set moderately low, but relatively not so low as in the black field spaniel; carried close to the head, and furnished with soft, wavy hair.

NECK is rather short, strong, and slightly arched, but not carrying the head above the level of the back. There should not be much throatiness in the skin, but well marked frill in the coat.

CHEST AND SHOULDERS.—The chest is round, especially behind the shoulders, deep and wide, giving a good girth. The shoulders should be oblique.

BACK AND BACK RIBS.—The back and loin is long, and should be very muscular, both in width and depth; for this development the back ribs must be deep. The whole body is characterised as low, long, level, and strong.

LEGS AND FEET.—The arms and thighs must be bony, as well as muscular, knees and hocks large and strong, pasterns very short and bony, feet large and round, and with short hair between the toes. The legs should be very short and strong, with great bone, and may show a slight bend in the fore arm, and be moderately well feathered. The hind legs should not be apparently shorter than the fore legs, or be too much bent at the hock, so as to give a settery appearance, which is so objectionable. The hind legs should be well feathered above the hocks, but should not have much hair below this point. The hocks should be short and wide apart.

TAIL.—Should be docked from 5 to 7 inches, set low, and not carried above the level of the back, thickly clothed with moderately long feather.

COAT.—Body coat abundant, flat or slightly waved, with no tendency to curl; moderately well feathered on legs and stern, but clean below the hocks.

COLOUR.—Rich golden liver; this is a certain sign of the purity of the breed—dark liver or puce denoting unmistakably a recent cross with the black or other variety of field spaniel.

GENERAL APPEARANCE.—Rather massive and muscular, but with free movements and nice tail action, denoting a tractable and cheerful disposition. Weight from 35 to 45 lbs.

VALUE OF POINTS—

| | |
|---|---|
| Head | 10 |
| Eyes | 5 |
| Carry forward | 15 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Brought forward | 15 |
| Nose | 5 |
| Ears | 10 |
| Neck | 5 |
| Chest and shoulders | 5 |
| Back and back ribs | 10 |
| Legs and feet | 10 |
| Tail | 5 |
| Coat | 5 |
| Colour | 15 |
| General appearance | 15 |
| Total positive points | 100 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Light eyes | 5 |
| Narrow head | 10 |
| Weak muzzle | 10 |
| Curled ears or high set on | 5 |
| Curled coat | 15 |
| Carriage or stern | 5 |
| Top-knot | 10 |
| White on chest | 5 |
| Colour (too light or too dark) | 15 |
| Legginess or light of bone | 5 |
| Shortness of body or flat-sided | 5 |
| General appearance, sour or crouching | 10 |
| Total negative points | 100 |

# THE FIELD SPANIEL

THERE are two classifications for field spaniels—the black and the any other variety. The distinction is purely one of colour of coat, and the points—such as colour of eyes, nose, etc.—which hinge on it. In all other matters the Standard of Points of the two classes is precisely the same, and I therefore propose to deal with them in the same section.

The name "field spaniel" is one that has been given to the variety to distinguish it from the cocker spaniel on the one hand, and from the "springers other than Clumber and Sussex" on the other; at least such is the definition to be derived by inference from the Kennel Club's latest classification. The Spaniel Club, whilst giving a maximum weight of 65 lbs. for the Clumber, 45 for the Sussex, 45 for the field, and 25 for the cocker, omits any mention of weight for the springer or Norfolk (*sit venia verbum*), but one of my contributors puts it as from 45 to 50 lbs. The term "springer" cannot be regarded as a distinctive name for any one variety of spaniel, as it simply implies that a dog "springs" its game, in contradistinction to other breeds that point or set it. In its duties the field spaniel is a springer, and yet if the reader will compare the modern type with the illustrations of the "springer spaniel" as it existed in 1803 and 1843, he will see a

*R. N. Speaight, photo.*

BLACK FIELD SPANIEL.

*Ch.* BRIDFORD BOY.

*E. S. Baker & Son, photo.*

VARIETY FIELD SPANIEL.

KEMPSTON CAMEO.

PLATE XXIV.

difference little less than astonishing. For the field spaniel as developed to-day is nothing if he is not long and low—a new caste, a new type, a new conformation altogether.

Taking the black field spaniel first, I quote some very caustic remarks made by Mr. Rawdon Lee in his book published in 1897, as follows:—

If the black field spaniel, as seen at our modern shows, can be taken as a distinct variety,—and I think it can,—we must consider him as a comparatively modern introduction. None of the old writers mention him, nor have artists of a past generation drawn him. It may be safely said that he is bred for show purposes alone. . . . As a fact, such dogs as gain the chief prizes on our show-benches are kept for that purpose alone. . . . A good specimen must have a perfectly flat coat and a shining one; his ears cannot be too long, well clothed with hair and fringed at the tips; his head, too, may be an exaggeration—long, with not the most peculiarly pleasing spaniel expression and eye that one would like to see. Some of our heavier black field spaniels have enormous heads, square and untypical, with eyes displaying a haw that would not be out of place in a bloodhound. . . . Length of body, shortness of leg, and enormous bone are again produced in exaggeration; crooked fore legs have followed; and the black field spaniel—once, perhaps, a useful and active animal—has now fallen into the heavy, slow ranks of the Clumber (but by no means so interesting a creature), and may be taken as a sound example of what can be done in the matter of breeding for "show points."

I supplement this with some remarks from Mr. J. F. Kirk, who was responsible for the article on the breed in the *American Book of the Dog*:—

A stupid prejudice, as it seems to the writer, exists in the minds of many worthy old sportsmen that deterioration is the most evident fact to them in comparing modern spaniels with the wonderful dogs of their day. This is pure nonsense, and arises from a kind of halo of glory with which we are all apt to surround the memories of our young and enthusiastic days. From personal experience, recollection, and good opportunities of comparison, extending over nearly forty years, I feel positive that the handsomest setters which old Laverack used to bring with him to my

native Highland moors would not receive more than a "V.H.C." card at our modern shows. And so with spaniels. The dogs of thirty or even fifteen years ago cannot be compared with the cracks of the present day. In candidly admitting this fact, however, I am quite free to confess that there is a strong tendency on the part of the modern breeder to exaggerate "fancy points." For instance, spaniel conformation is essentially "long and low." What says Daniel in his *Rural Sports* a hundred years ago? "A spaniel cannot be too strong; a spaniel cannot be too short on the leg; a spaniel cannot be too high-couraged." But there is a rivalry amongst the breeders to produce "the longest and lowest." Now there is a limit to length and lowness, which is clearly defined as a point where an exaggeration in those respects interferes with the necessary activity and ability to work with sufficient ease and vigour in a rough country. . . . A leggy spaniel is an abomination, but the modern English tendency is to breed them long and low, and too heavy in bone and body. We must come to a clear comprehension as to the line to be drawn between "long legs" and "no legs"; a short-legged dog does not mean of necessity a crawling thing that requires to be helped over every obstacle a foot or two high.

These opinions were expressed six and twelve years ago, and it would be interesting to hear what the writers had to say of the field spaniel of the twentieth century.

A gentleman who is a right good working sportsman writes me as follows of his black field spaniels, which he keeps for sport, and the work they do:—

I am satisfied with Mr. Woolland's type. I do not like the very heavy skulled dogs that seem to be getting the fashion; a field spaniel ought not to be a black Clumber. The drawback with the black spaniel, in my opinion, is that he seems more given to eczema than the liver or other varieties. The long, low, and *medium-sized* spaniels are much easier to break, and will go into thicker cover than the longer legged ones. I have shot over them for twenty years, and won many prizes at all the shows with them. They retrieve well, though not a hare over a five-barred gate; if you want that done I should recommend a retriever. But all other game they retrieve well. I say this from a thoroughly shooting point of view, as few men have handled a gun, not even keepers, for the last twenty years more than myself. I am out

most days on marshy ground after wildfowl and snipe, or through very thick, prickly cover, with several black spaniels, for rabbits. For ordinary hedge-row shooting I have no doubt a heavy Clumber is the dog, but different dogs for different places. My spaniels all take to water, and retrieve well. I spend many nights in winter, when moonlight, after duck, and a steady spaniel that retrieves well is useful then. I have proved to my own satisfaction that a dog bred from a show winner is the best, but he must be brought up to the work from a puppy, and brought up *hard*. My shooting here is slight in the bag, but plenty of exercise. My ideal black field spaniel *for these parts* would be as follows :— Head, not too thick across skull, very deep muzzle, not too thick across ; very low placed ears ; nicely cut under the eyes, which must be dark, and with sweet expression ; body, long and low ; strong loins ; stern carried well below back ; good shoulders, not dipping, like so many spaniels whose hindquarters are higher than their shoulders ; legs perfectly straight, very strong and plenty of feather ; weight about 35 lbs. ; head well domed. A flat skull generally indicates an obstinate brute, and often hard mouthed, in my experience. The very big spaniel, which seems now to be the fashion on the show-bench, is much sooner tired after a hard day's work than the one about 35 lbs. I have found the low legged dogs (if quite straight) quite as active and able to do more work, day after day, than the longer legged ones, and few men work their dogs more than I do.

This is a practical tribute to the valuable working qualities of the breed, and for that reason I have quoted it as showing that the dog is appreciated in some quarters on these grounds, and that, despite its short legs, it can be active, and is hardy and enduring. And these dogs, be it noted, are stock bred from show-bench winners, in favour of whom my contributor has a special commendation.

The "variety field spaniel," as it is colloquially called, is a dog built on precisely the same lines as the black one, but its coat may be any one of several colours, such as black and tan, liver and tan, liver, black and tan and white roan, liver and tan roan, blue roan, and blue roan and tan. Concerning

which the following are the views of my contributors :—

MR. JOHN SMITH.—I am satisfied with the type we see, but there are far more good bitches than dogs on the show-bench at present. As regards the dispute about the long and low field spaniel being unable to do a day's work, I find my prize-winning spaniels, which have been brought up in the country, properly exercised and broken, can do a good day's work fast enough for any one, are intelligent, have good noses, and retrieve tenderly either on land or water. I consider a field or cocker spaniel is the best dog as a companion, being so affectionate and good-tempered, and as an all-round dog with the gun I am sure the field spaniel cannot be beaten.

MISS E. H. WAKEFIELD.—Many specimens lack true spaniel character, having light eyes, showing the haw, throatiness, crooked fore legs, gay tail carriage, and resemble the basset-hound too much in outline and movement. Any specimens having these defects cannot be said to have true spaniel character; certainly those showing the haws cannot have the beautiful, benign, kind expression so characteristic of this breed. Breeders would do well to try and stamp out these failings, which spoil so many otherwise good specimens. Some of our leading judges overlook these faults; if all would handicap them they would soon be things of the past, and much good done to the breed. My ideal of this variety is that he should weigh 45 lbs., with little variation either way; his head dome shaped, long, and fairly lean, nicely chiselled, muzzle clearly cut, not too wide across or snipey; eyes to match colour, grave in expression; ears long and lobe-shaped, set low; neck muscular, not short; shoulders sloping and free; chest well developed, not wide; body long, deep, perfectly straight; ribs well sprung; back and loin strong and muscular; tail carried below the level of the back; legs reasonably short, perfectly straight, with heavy bone; feet close and cat-like, with sufficient hair beneath to protect the pads; feather, setter-like, not too profuse, especially below the hock. Although naturally of a quiet disposition the dog should be active, capable of doing the work required of him,—in fact, a combination of beauty, utility, and intelligence. As a companion for either sex the spaniel is unequalled, devoted to his owner, a reliable guard, capable of holding his own. I derive much pleasure in my endeavour to improve the breed.

MR. F. W. MORRIS.—We must not allow our dogs to get too long or too low: there is a medium in all things. For many

years the breeders of the coloured field spaniel have had much trouble in getting their fancy on the same lines as the black field spaniel; the cocker seemed to be the only result of their efforts, but time and work has done all, and now we have coloured field spaniels on the same lines and of the same type as the black, and I think just as good.

## STANDARD OF POINTS OF THE BLACK FIELD SPANIEL

(Spaniel Club's)

HEAD.—Should be quite characteristic of this grand sporting dog, as is that of the bloodhound or bull-dog; its very stamp and countenance should at once convey the conviction of high breeding, character, and nobility. Skull well developed, with a *distinctly elevated occipital tuberosity*, which, above all, gives the character alluded to; not too wide across muzzle, long and lean, never snipey nor squarely cut, and, in profile, curving gradually from nose to throat; lean beneath the eyes, a thickness here gives coarseness to the whole head. The great length of muzzle gives surface for the free development of the olfactory nerve, and thus secures the highest possible scenting powers.

EYES.—Not too full, but not small, receding or overhung; colour, dark hazel, or dark brown, or nearly black; grave in expression, and bespeaking unusual docility and instinct.

EARS.—*Set low down as possible*, which greatly adds to the refinement and beauty of the whole head; moderately long and wide, and sufficiently clad with nice setter-like feather.

NECK.—Very strong and muscular, so as to enable the dog to retrieve his game without undue fatigue; not too short, however.

BODY (including size and symmetry).—*Long and very low*, well ribbed up to a good strong loin, straight, or slightly arched, *never slack;* weight from about 35 to 45 lbs.

NOSE.—Well developed, with good open nostrils, and always black in colour.

SHOULDERS AND CHEST.—Former sloping and free, latter deep and well developed, but not too round and wide.

BACK AND LOIN.—Very strong and muscular, level, and long in proportion to the height of the dog.

HINDQUARTERS.—Very powerful and muscular, wide, and fully developed.

STERN.—Well set on, and carried *low*, if possible, *below the level of the back*, in a perfectly straight line, or with a slight downward inclination; never elevated above the back, and in action always kept low; nicely fringed, with wavy feather of silky texture.

FEET AND LEGS.—Feet not too small, and well protected between the toes with soft feather; good strong pads. Legs straight and immensely boned, strong and short, and nicely feathered with flat or waved setter-like feather. Over much feathering below hocks objectionable.

COAT.—Flat or slightly waved, and never curled, sufficiently dense to resist the weather, and not too short, silky in texture, glossy and refined

in nature, with neither duffelness on the one hand, nor curl or wireness on the other; on chest, under belly, and behind the legs there should be abundant feather, but never too much, and that of the right sort—namely, setter-like. The tail and hindquarters should be similarly adorned.

COLOUR.—Jet black throughout, glossy and true. A little white on chest, though a drawback, not a disqualification.

GENERAL APPEARANCE.—That of a sporting dog, capable of learning and doing anything possible for his inches and conformation. A grand combination of beauty and utility.

VALUE OF POINTS—

*Positive Points*

| | |
|---|---|
| Head and jaw | 15 |
| Eyes | 5 |
| Ears | 5 |
| Neck | 5 |
| Body | 10 |
| Fore legs | 10 |
| Hind legs | 10 |
| Feet | 10 |
| Stern | 10 |
| Coat and feather | 10 |
| General appearance | 10 |
| Total positive points | 100 |

*Negative Points*

| | |
|---|---|
| Light eyes | 20 |
| ,, nose | 15 |
| Curled ears | 10 |
| ,, coat | 10 |
| Bad carriage of tail | 10 |
| Top-knot | 15 |
| White on chest | 10 |
| Crooked fore legs | 10 |
| Total negative points | 100 |

The Standard of Points of the "any other variety" or coloured field spaniel differs from that of the black field spaniel in the following points only:—

EYES.—The colour in all cases to match the coat and markings, viz.:—

In black and tan, eyes hazel or brown.

In liver and tan, eyes rather lighter than in black and tan, but of good rich tone.

In livers, eyes light hazel colour.

In black, tan and white roans, eyes somewhat similar to those of black and tan.

In liver and tan roans, eyes somewhat similar to liver and tans.

NOSE.—Variable, according to colour of coat and markings :—
Black and tan, nose black.
Liver and tan, nose dark liver colour.
Livers, nose liver.
Black and tan and white roans, nose black.
Liver and tan roans, nose liver coloured.

COAT.—Similar in quality, substance, texture, and in all other respects, except colour, to black spaniels.

COLOURS.—Various, such as black and tan ; liver and tan ; black, tan and white roans ; liver and tan roans.

*Note* —" Blue roan " and " blue roan and tan " colours are omitted from this description of points, although very favourite shades now.

The black field spaniel illustrated is Ch. *Bridford Boy*, bred by Mr. Moses Woolland and owned by Mrs. Woolland. He is by *Bridford Tommy*, out of *Bridford Jappy*, and was born in January 1899 — undoubtedly the best field spaniel to-day. Length, from eye to nose, $4\frac{1}{4}$ inches ; length of fore leg, $10\frac{3}{4}$ inches, and from tip of nose to set on of tail, $36\frac{3}{4}$ inches ; weight, about 48 lbs., is very smart in the field, no day being too long for him. He has a long, lean head, muzzle beautifully chiselled under the eye, which is very dark ; ears set very low down, narrow where they leave the head, long, and lobe-shaped, well furnished with hair on the inside of leather ; body large, deep, and long, with well sprung ribs and barrel-shaped. Legs straight, short, strong, and very large in bone ; tail carried below the level of the back ; coat, perfectly smooth and satin like, with no inclination to wave or curl. Championship at Birmingham, Crystal Palace, and Crufts, and has won innumerable other prizes.

*Kempston Cameo*, bred and owned by Mrs. F. Carter Mitchell, is by *Welsh Roger* out of *Kempston Clytemnestra*, and was whelped in April 1900. He is a blue roan, stands 12 inches at the shoulder, and weighs 40 lbs. Eyes, very dark ; low placed ears ; perfect stern carriage ; has a really beautiful straight coat. Although of the fashionable type — long and low — is particularly active. Winner of several prizes, including two firsts at Birmingham.

## THE SPRINGER OR NORFOLK SPANIEL

I AM conscious I should not write "Norfolk" at the head of this section, and yet have done so out of a sentimental consideration, and relying on facts as they are, not as they shortly will be. For I have before me the Spaniel Club's booklet, giving the Standard of Points of the various breeds of spaniels, and on pp. 26 to 28 there is one for the "Norfolk" spaniel. I know these three pages are doomed to be eliminated, and, with this confession, allow the name to remain as an alternative title to this article.

It would appear that when Youatt, about the middle of the last century, wrote that the Norfolk spaniel was first brought into notice by a Duke of Norfolk, who produced it by a cross between a terrier and a spaniel, he was drawing on his imagination. For I have the authority of Mr. John S. Cowell, the Honorary Secretary of the Spaniel Club, for the following notes on the subject:—

*Re* Norfolk spaniels.—For many years there has been an impression abroad that these spaniels are indigenous to the county from which they take their name, and that the Duke of Norfolk has or had a kennel of the breed. As a matter of fact, no county is able to claim as its own the liver and white spaniel, which is certainly to be found in almost every village in England. I believe there are more of this variety in Yorkshire than in most counties; in fact the very best specimen I ever saw was in York city, and Mr. Thomas Jacobs (whose kennel Mr. Woolland purchased)

SPRINGER SPANIEL.

*Ch.* BEECHGROVE WILL.

*W. Rocnard, photo.*

NORFOLK SPANIEL.

Toss.

endeavoured to buy it when visiting the Royal York Dog Show, of which I was the Honorary Secretary. The dog, or rather bitch, which the late Mr. Hugh Dalziel selected to illustrate the breed in the first edition of his book on the dog, belonged to a gentleman residing near Tunbridge Wells in Kent, and I ultimately purchased her, and sold her to go to America.

With a view to finally settling the question, Mr. James Farrow wrote to the late Duke of Norfolk, who replied to the effect (I quote from memory) that he knew nothing of any breed of liver and white spaniels named Norfolk, and his family never owned such a strain. Besides, the Spaniel Sporting Club have dropped the name "Norfolk" and substituted "Springer." For these reasons it is proposed to discontinue the description in the next issue of our Standard of Points, and at our next general meeting steps will be taken to withdraw that which was inserted in error many years ago.

Such an authoritative statement cannot, of course, be controverted. Mr. Rawdon Lee is of the same opinion, for he writes: "Personally I do not consider the liver and white spaniel any particular variety at all; Devonshire, for instance, has attained a celebrity for hardy spaniels that had to work in the rough country, and many of them were liver and white in colour. They never came from Norfolk, nor did the Devonshire men claim them as their own. . . . Liver and white spaniels, almost infinite in shape and size, may be seen running about the streets in any country place—a leggier, closer and better coated animal often than the ordinary spaniel we see when standing at the ring side."

If the illustration I give is not that of a "Norfolk" spaniel, it is at least one for which that designation is claimed; and when the nomenclature has become extinct, it will serve to show what was accepted as the type of the breed. And this is what Mr. H. G. Bleazby writes on the subject:—

With regard to the Norfolk spaniel, the first thing I object to is the classification granted by the Kennel Club, which classes

a pure Norfolk spaniel with any cross-bred spaniel that is high on the leg. A distinct breed, having a distinct type, should be recognised. Secondly, a little respect should be shown the breed by judges. At present it is treated with so much contempt that a person feels ashamed to take a dog, however good, into the ring. When he does, his dog is spoken of with derision as a "worker," which, in my opinion, ought to be the highest compliment it is possible to pay a spaniel. In the ring to-day the worst points a dog can possess is ability to do a spaniel's work. The points most desired are those which make him physically unfit for his work in the field. It seems to be overlooked that dog shows were started to develop those qualities that make dogs workers in the field, and to improve *sporting* dogs. Nowadays the only thing a show encourages is a type known as "show type," which is generally acknowledged to be, to say the least, inferior in working powers. I do not agree with the present value of points, which give the bulk of value to exaggerated features, and destroy what, in my opinion, is of the greatest value of all—"balance." I have always felt very acutely the way in which the two national breeds of spaniels—the Sussex and the Norfolk—have been treated by the Kennel Club, who have always been glad to give encouragement to any foreign dogs. Norfolks are more capable of doing a day's work in the field than any other variety of spaniel; they are hardier and more enduring, and, on the whole, keener and more intelligent, though, perhaps, through their very keenness, harder to keep under control. If I keep a spaniel I want a dog capable of doing a spaniel's work. For want of a classification I have to show my spaniel *Toss* in "any other variety" classes. With one exception he has always been in the money, although he has had to meet Clumber and cocker spaniel champions, with whom he has been placed equal. Every judge who has seen him has admired him, and one of the leading critics in the dog-press called him "an ideal type." On several occasions he has been brought out by judges as an object lesson, and most of them have regretted there have not been more dogs of his type. Now, is it fair to call a dog with that record a mongrel?

As I certainly do not think it is fair, and as I admire Mr. Bleazby's spirit in championing his dog, and also greatly admire the dog, of which he sent me a photograph (conceiving it very like Reinagle's springer spaniel of a hundred years ago), it has given me great pleasure

to reproduce *Toss's* portrait in these pages, and to hand him down to posterity as a "Norfolk" spaniel. And if you asked me which dog I would sooner have for pheasant shooting in the Himalayas—*Toss* or the con-

SPRINGER SPANIEL (1803). *After Reinagle.*

SPRINGER SPANIEL (1843).

ventional show-bench spaniel, I am Goth enough to declare I would sooner have *Toss* to tackle those

precipitous ups and downs of 1000 to 3000 feet climbing that occur in a day's sport. But this is my personal and not my editorial opinion.

Whether I am justified or not in reproducing a "leggy" spaniel into my illustrations it is for my critics to say; but I am certainly justified in including in my letterpress the two drawings which accompany this section. One is Reinagle's springer, the other a springer spaniel of the year 1843—dogs of a hundred and of sixty years ago. And all I will say is that if our modern show-bench spaniels are "object lessons," so are these obsolete types—and so is *Toss*.

As a epitaph on a departing classification, I am glad to give Mr. Bleazby's description of an "ideal Norfolk spaniel," by which future generations shall know what this survival to the twentieth century was like.

MR. BLEAZBY'S IDEAL NORFOLK SPANIEL.—My idea of a Norfolk spaniel is as follows:—A dog weighing about 45 to 50 lbs., with a very deep but rather short head; deep, square muzzle; large mouth, well covered by the lips; good stop; skull well developed and somewhat square (plenty of room for reasoning and scenting powers); ears large, set high, and somewhat pointed, well covered with hair on the outside only, except at the edges; hair only just exceeding the length of the ear. Neck round and very powerful, sufficiently long to allow him to keep his nose to the ground when travelling; chest broad and very deep, heavily covered with long hair, forming a ruff down the centre. Body of medium length, well ribbed up; back ribs very strong and round, very strong loins; tail, although set rather higher than a Sussex spaniel's, never carried above the level of the back. The body should be clothed with a thick coat, straight and flat except on the chest, fine in texture, short on the back, and getting longer towards the belly, and coarser, especially between the fore legs; the undercoat should be very thick. The legs should be of medium length, but with very big bone; well feathered both fore and hind, almost to the feet, particularly the fore legs, which should have long and silky feather, getting gradually shorter to the feet; the hind legs should have long and rather coarse feather

to the hocks; below the hocks fine, short, but thick feather to the feet. The feet should be large, round, and the toes well arched, with plenty of short, coarse hair covering them. The dog should be well balanced, but not heavily built, giving the idea of great strength combined with activity. A quick, bright expression, and a thorough spaniel, not a retriever head.

My other contributor in this section is Mr. F. Winton Smith, but he writes under the heading of "Springer," not "Norfolk" spaniels. He is satisfied with the type as laid down by the Spaniel Club, and considers that for all-round wear and tear work this breed cannot be surpassed, and that it is better adapted for work than any other spaniel.

I may here make a note that the Spaniel Club classifies the variety of spaniel of which this section treats under the heading "Sussex and other Liver-coloured Spaniels," which seems a little incongruous and hard on the latter variety. For Mr. Cowell declares them to be the commonest spaniel in England, whilst Colonel Claude Cane infers that the Sussex is the "scarcest" and purest. If the liver and white is a "mongrel," as some assert, it is an anomaly to place it in competition with the breed considered the purest.

The following are the correct points of the spaniel, which is now classified by the Kennel Club as the "English springer, other than Clumber, Sussex, and field"—a considerably bigger mouthful to pronounce than the neat and natty "Norfolk":—

STANDARD OF POINTS OF THE SPRINGER OR NORFOLK SPANIEL

HEAD.—Skull long and rather narrow; a stop; the muzzle broad and long to the end.

EYES.—Rather small, bright, and intelligent.

EARS.—Long, low-set, and lobular.

NECK.—Lean, long, and slightly arched.

BODY (including size and symmetry).—Fairly heavy body; legs rather longer than in other field spaniels, but not so long as in Irish; medium size.

NOSE.—Large and soft.

SHOULDERS AND CHEST.—Shoulders long and sloping; chest deep, and fairly broad.

BACK AND LOIN.—Back flat and strong; loin rather long, flat, and strong.

HINDQUARTERS.—Long; hock well let down; stifles moderately bent, and not twisted inward or outward.

STERN.—Low carried, *i.e.*, not above the level of the back.

FEET AND LEGS.—Strong boned, inclining to shortness; feet large, and rather flat.

COAT.—Not woolly, not curly, but may be broken.

COLOUR.—Liver and white, and black and white.

GENERAL APPEARANCE.—An active, useful, medium-sized dog.

POINT VALUES—

*Positive Points*

| | |
|---|---|
| Head, jaw, and eyes | 20 |
| Ears | 10 |
| Neck | 10 |
| Body | 10 |
| Fore legs | 10 |
| Hind legs | 10 |
| Feet | 5 |
| Stern | 5 |
| Coat and feather | 10 |
| General appearance | 10 |
| Total positive points | 100 |

*Negative Points*

| | |
|---|---|
| Carriage of stern | 10 |
| Top-knot | 10 |
| Total negative points | 20 |

My illustrations represent Ch. *Beechgrove Will*, and *Toss*. The former, described by his owner as a "springer" spaniel, was bred and is owned by Mr. F. Winton Smith, and was born in November 1898. His sire was *Beechgrove Romp* and his dam *Beechgrove Plum*. He is probably one of the best specimens of his breed in existence, and secured the title of "Champion" at the Kennel Club Show of 1903. He is the winner of many prizes.

The following is the description of *Toss*, who was bred by Mr. Cock, by *Hoas* out of *Shot*, and born in May 1899. He stands 15 inches high at shoulder, weighs 47 lbs., and is liver and white in colour. Is an extremely well-balanced dog, with immense bone, a splendid coat, typical head, deep and square in muzzle, dark brown eyes, full of intelligence, and correct carriage of both

ears and tail. Well feathered to the feet on both front and hind legs; round cat-like feet, well protected with hair; neck and front very powerfully built, and he can carry five to six pounds with ease. Has never been known to be stopped by any break, no matter how thick. He has won many prizes in variety classes, and has been placed equal with champion spaniels. In the illustration his head has been made to look, owing to its being twisted, inclined to snipeyness, when in reality he has a particularly deep and square muzzle.

## THE WELSH SPRINGER SPANIEL

IN the Spaniel Club's Annual Report for 1902 it is announced: "The first committee meeting of the year was specially called on February 3rd to consider the decision of the Kennel Club to place on the register classes for 'English springers, other than Clumber and Sussex,' and 'Welsh springers, red and white,' which the committee unanimously decided to protest against."

With such a dictum confronting me as I entitle this section I cannot but harbour qualms and doubts, and nervously anticipate that "derision" to which Mr. Bleazby complains he is subjected what time he leads his "Norfolk" spaniel into the ring.

On the other hand, I am fortified by the decision of the Kennel Club, and the opinions of Welsh spaniel experts, who can speak of and vouch for the purity and antiquity of the breed from long personal and family experience. In answer to an inquiry, Sir John Talbot Dillwyn Llewelyn, Bart., of Penllergaer, writes:—

Mr. Williams, of Ynisygerwm, has now got the best spaniels —Welsh springers—which I know of, of our old breed. They are red and white, medium size, and in my younger days we had a very good team. I have a fair team now, but was unlucky a year or two ago. They are good workers. I believe my father had them many years; they were natives of the Vale of Neath, and tradition says we had the best then. Certainly I consider,

CORRIN.

FANNY OF GERWM.

WELSH SPANIELS. PLATE XXVI.

when I was a young man in the 'Fifties, mine were the best anywhere.

Mr. A. T. Williams, of Ynisygerwm, to whom I also addressed an inquiry, replied :—

This dog is of very ancient origin ; he is probably the oldest of all the spaniel breeds now in Great Britain. With comparatively little care or breeding he has preserved his type and valuable working qualities. These spaniels have never been kept for the show-bench, but have been bred and kept purely for work by sportsmen—principally in South Wales—and notably by such old shooting families as those of Colonel J. Blandy-Jenkins of Llanharan, Sir John T. D. Llewelyn of Penllergaer, Colonel Henry Lewis of Greenmeadow, and others. These families have possessed these dogs for upwards of a hundred years. The Welsh spaniel is a distinct variety, and differs from all other breeds in type and other respects ; writings and pictures, dating back some hundreds of years, describe and depict this spaniel. When field trials for spaniels were established the Welsh springer very speedily came to the front, and proved himself a most excellent worker and a great winner at the trials. The Kennel Club has placed the variety in the Stud Book as a distinct breed, and classes are provided for them at their show, and also at many others. The colour is red (of varying shades) and white, and a standard of points has been adopted for the variety by the Kennel Club. In Wales the ground to be worked comprises some of the very roughest and densest character, and necessitates a very high-couraged, active, and persevering dog ; not only must he be able to work ground of this description, but he must be able to do so all day, and day after day. I work a team of ten or twelve of these spaniels at one time, and without them should not find half of my game. They are fast, merry workers, will face the thickest covert, have rare noses, and the most extraordinary powers of endurance in work. In short, there is no doubt the breed are the best working spaniels, and at the same time very handsome. The Kennel Club went deeply into the matter, and decided the Welsh spaniel was a distinct breed of the most valuable description.

A third correspondent—a lady much interested in the breed—to whom I wrote, replied :—

As regards Welsh springers, their colour is red and white,

although orange is allowed. They have existed in the kennels of some old Welsh families for a hundred and fifty years. All the best seem to come from South Wales, as all the best Welsh terriers seem to come from North Wales. There has been a great controversy over the Welsh springer, but they have won the day, and got a separate classification from the Kennel Club. The principal breeders, such as Mr. A. T. Williams and Mr. W. H. David, are with difficulty induced to show, but at Shrewsbury in 1903 the Welsh spaniel classes were said to be quite the feature of the show.

From an interesting article by Baron Jaubert, which appeared in the *Illustrated Kennel News*, I extract the following particulars :—

There are many valuable strains of dogs in England which never appear at shows, and are consequently ignored. Their owners — true sportsmen — preserve their dogs with care, and despise perpetual changes and fashions. Welsh spaniels, dogs intended for sport, and not prepared like modern dogs, would not have the least chance at a show of beating the inordinately long and low new type of spaniel which has been in favour for some time. Therefore the Welsh owners did not show them.

The Sporting Spaniel Society (which was founded to bring back spaniels from the "dogs of fancy," into which dog shows had gradually transformed them, to a type more suitable to a working dog) succeeded in obtaining at exhibitions a special class for "working type spaniels." And then a Welsh dog was brought out at Birmingham in December 1899, which made a sensation. This was *Corrin*, belonging to Mr. A. T. Williams, a magnificent red and white dog. Mr. Purcell-Llewellin gave him first in a class of twenty-four; the dog afterwards won at many other of the very first shows, including a championship at the Crystal Palace.

All this time ink was flowing freely. The pillars of the ordinary breeds of spaniels would not admit the Welsh; the dog could not, ought not, to exist. Endless letters appeared in the newspapers, but the last word has been said by the Kennel Club, which has recognised the Welsh spaniel as a separate breed. He comes victorious out of the struggle; not only does he exist, but he is of perfectly pure blood and more ancient breed than certain other spaniel strains.

There are a few kennels that have kept the pure strain of Welsh spaniels for over a hundred and fifty years; I will mention

those of Mr. Jones of Pontneath, Sir John Llewelyn of Penllergaer, Colonel Lewis of Greenmeadow, and Mr. A. T. Williams of Ynisygerwm. The breed of spaniels has existed at the latter kennels since 1750. The grandfather of Mr. Williams used to go shooting in the years from 1805 to 1850 with a team of twelve to fourteen dogs trained by himself. Mr. Williams' father carried on the sport from 1845 to 1894, working with eight dogs, also trained by himself. Now Mr. Williams uses teams of from three to eight dogs, trained by a keeper. Two guns walk about 32 yards to the right and left of the keeper, who directs the dogs.

Colonel Lewis and Mr. David of Neath also keep these dogs, and their kennels confirmed my impression that they were a distinct variety, very consistent in type, very uniform, and sharply defined by shape and coat. The latter is of a warm brick-red colour, though orange is allowable, sometimes inclining to wine-colour, a specially distinctive shade. The ear is rather small, though quite long enough for a sporting dog; the body well off the ground, but not so much that the dog can be called "leggy." It is obvious that a dog built like this could gallop and jump as could none of the "long and low" show dogs, wittily defined, in the course of the recent polemics, as "living drain-pipes," for whom "vast halls and long corridors" are necessary. The Welsh "starters"—a term more frequently employed in Wales than "springers"—show amongst themselves similar differences of height and weight to those seen amongst pointers, where members of the same litter may be classed, some as large and others as small pointers. The scale of points indicates a sufficiently wide margin, ranging from 30 to 43 lbs. Below 30 lbs. we find the Welsh cocker, which is entered in the ordinary cocker class at dog shows, but proves its Welsh origin by its red markings.

We had an opportunity of seeing these spaniels hunt the steep slopes of the Neath valley. The ground was a bed of matted bracken, which hid completely the fallen stones, and made walking very difficult. Large rocks rose, isolated, from this gilded covert, in which there were sometimes strong brambles and interwoven dead branches; at any time one may find one's self entangled in invisible ruins. These are just the places where one or two cockers are invaluable to dislodge the rabbits that double into them as if in a stack of faggots. In a country like this the two teams we saw at the field trials worked for six consecutive hours. The dogs swarmed round their men as lightly and gaily as if in a stubble-field; they showed as much energy at the close of the

day as they had done at the beginning. They proved themselves to possess excellent noses and great keenness. They reconciled —a necessary point in teams—the greatest activity with perfect immobility at the flushing of game or the sound of a gun. The sixty-six head of game to four guns certainly gave us more pleasure than 400 head would at a battue. We began the day with the before-mentioned prize-winner *Corrin*, who, despite his ten years, showed an energy and a dash as great as those of the puppies—a proof that the breed is sound.

Mr. A. T. Williams has very kindly supplied me with a description of his "ideal" Welsh springer spaniel, and from this and the very full description of *Corrin*, who forms the subject of one of my illustrations, and an inspection of those illustrations, the reader will be able to form his own opinion as to whether to agree with the decision of the Kennel Club or that of the Spaniel Club, as recorded at the beginning of this section.

MR. A. T. WILLIAMS' IDEAL WELSH SPANIEL.—The old Welsh breed is not affected by shows, but has been bred and kept by shooting sportsmen for its working properties. A spaniel full of intelligence, and that, with the mere sight of a gun, instantly brims over with delight. His greatest pleasure is to set to work immediately, and force out for the gun whatever there may be in the shape of game or rabbits.

The ideal Welsh spaniel must be exceedingly active and strong, able to negotiate the most difficult as well as the thickest places, and to last out the longest day. His colour must always be red and white, the red deepening with age. His head fairly long and strong, but not settery type. Ears should be small, offering a minimum of resistance and opportunity to gorse and briars; eyes dark and full of spaniel expression; body very muscular, not long on any account, with thick coat, not curly; stern down, never above the line of his back, with plenty of movement; legs medium length, with plenty of bone and good round feet. And for disposition he must possess utter devotion to his master, high courage, and not afraid of a fight if imposed upon him, but not quarrelsome. If whipped, never sulky, but ready to start off working again instantly. Always a pleasure to the master to have the dog with him, whether in actual work or at home.

My illustrations depict *Corrin* and *Fanny of Gerwm* —to my eyes a pair of as beautiful working spaniels as any one could wish to see, looking at them from an artistic point of view.

*Corrin*, the property of Mr. A. T. Williams, was bred by Colonel J. Blandy-Jenkins, by *Dash* out of *Busy*, and was whelped in June 1893. He is of medium height, weighs 42 lbs., and of the correct red and white colour. His eyes are dark hazel, not prominent, and without haw; ears small and set fairly low; tail, low carriage and very lively motion; coat dense and straight; excellent bone; moderately feathered; strong body and well-sprung ribs, with length of body proportionate to that of leg; loin muscular and very strong, slightly arched and well coupled up; feet round, with thick pads; general appearance symmetrical, compact, strong, and active; built for endurance and activity. Is beyond doubt the most typical Welsh spaniel living, and the sire of all the best spaniels now being exhibited. Won championship at Birmingham and Crystal Palace, and other prizes too numerous to mention.

*Fanny of Gerwm*, the property of Mrs. H. D. Greene, was bred by Mr. A. Treherne, by *Dash* out of *Fan*, and born in September 1899. She has won various prizes, and is described by her former owner, Mr. Williams, as "perfect in head, legs, body, coat, and colour." She is the dam of many first class spaniels, some of which have been seen at the trials, and all proved themselves wonderful workers.

## THE COCKER SPANIEL

INFERENTIALLY the cocker spaniel is a very old breed, if it be true, as reputed, that he is the stock from whence the toy spaniels originated. Some have associated him with the spaniel gentle or comforter of Dr. Caius, which would date the breed back to the sixteenth century. Be this as it may, the variety was a well established one a hundred years ago, and Daniel, in his *Rural Sports*, figures a couple of liver and white specimens. The cocker derives its name from the fact that it was used for woodcock shooting, and its size is adapted to forcing its way through the dense haunts those wily bipeds often affect. Stonehenge describes the cocker of his time as much more active than the springer, of any colour more or less marked with white, and weighing up to 18 lbs. in bitches and 25 lbs. in dogs. The latter is the modern limit imposed, but the breed itself is now divided into two classifications, the black and the any other variety, which includes such a diversity of shades of coats as black and tan ; liver and tan ; liver ; black and tan and white ; liver, tan and white ; lemon and white, blue and red roans, and, in fact, any combination or blending of colours. As colour is the only distinction between the two varieties, I shall, as in the case of field spaniels, include both in the same section.

*E. Landor, photo.*

*Ch.* WESTBURY MADGE.

*H. Walters, photo.*

*Ch.* TED OBO.

BLACK COCKER SPANIELS.

PLATE XXVII.

I am so happily provided with contributions about cockers that I prefer to let my correspondents deal with the subject. And I cannot begin my long list of quotations better than by supplying the reader with the notes which Mr. Harding Cox, the President of the Cocker Club, has very kindly written for this work.

MR. HARDING COX.—Of late years the interest in the cocker spaniel has greatly increased, and it is now one of the most fashionable and popular of breeds. But *type* has been a hard nut for the experts to crack, and there are at least three distinct qualities, each of which has its votaries. For my own part I propose to deal only with that which experience has proved to me to be the most useful for all sporting purposes. My views must therefore be accepted for what they are worth. They are as follows:—

*General Appearance.*—My ideal cocker spaniel is a small, strongly built spaniel, differing but little in type from a miniature field spaniel, but not so long in the back as even a modified specimen of the latter breed. Albeit a cocker spaniel should appear *slightly* longer in length than in height. The idea that a cocker should be very short in the back is an erroneous one; such specimens lack liberty, and are almost invariably short in the neck and inactive.

*Action.*—This little spaniel has been aptly termed the "merry cocker," and he should display a bustling activity that seems to pervade him from tip to tail. The action of the stern should be continual whilst the dog is at work, and, as in the case of other spaniel breeds, that action should be low, and the stern never raised above the level of the back. In the show ring a cocker will often elevate his caudal appendage to show his contempt for a rival, and such a transgression may be excused if he displays the orthodox action when raced along by himself.

*Coat.*—The coat should be of moderate length, thick and soft, and *quite flat;* any tendency to wave or curl should be penalised, but the hair should feather off under the chest and flanks. Both fore and hind legs should be provided with a straight feathering sufficient to protect the dog from the scratches of brambles and gorse. If the feather is too heavy, it is detrimental to work; but this should not be penalised in the show ring, because it is impracticable to breed to such a nicety that the feather is of the exact length desirable. On the other hand, deficiency of feather

is a very prevalent fault, and one of far greater seriousness than a profusion of the commodity.

*Head.*—The best type of head is one which resembles that of the high quality field spaniel. The skull should be capacious and rounded over the brows, but not peaked in the occiput. The ears long and pendulous, and set rather low, but in many cases they are both shorter and squarer in proportion than those of the field spaniel. The hair on the ear is slightly spiral and in strands, but any appearance of curl is detrimental. The eyes are fairly round and full, but neither sunken nor unduly prominent; in colour they are a very deep soft brown, and their expression is highly intelligent and benevolent, and often rather deprecatory. The muzzle is long, strong, and square, but the lips should not be pendulous. There should be no falling away below the eyes, and weakness or snipeyness of the jaw is most objectionable. The neck is well arched and fairly long, well set in clean, sloping shoulders, and showing a beautiful, curving line. The chest deep, rather wide, flat below the shoulders, but fairly sprung in the back ribs. The couplings rather long, but in no way showing a waist.

*Feet.*—The feet large and close, feathered between the toes, and provided with strong, hard pads. The stifles are well bent, the hocks, also, well bent, bony and working true. Any intertwining or cow-hocked tendency is a grave blemish.

*Weight.*—A cocker should be 23 lbs. for dogs and 21 lbs. for bitches; they should not exceed 25 lbs., or be less than 20 lbs. In the latter case they risk a charge of toyishness, though it does not follow that because a cocker is small he is necessarily open to such a description.

*Colour.*—There are many variations. The all blacks are in great favour, and probably show more all round quality and purity of blood than their coloured cousins. A few white hairs on the chest of a black cocker is of small consequence, and even a patch of white on that part is by no means a disqualification; but foul markings on the feet and body are not admissible. The browns and livers are allied to the blacks, and often appear in litters of identical strain. They are, for some unknown reason, unpopular; but reds (Irish setter colour) are highly prized. Black and tans are also found, owning descent from blacks, and present a handsome appearance. The roans are very taking to the eye, and are much sought after; blue-roans, liver-roans, lemon-roans, and strawberry-roans are run after, but the black and white and the liver and white are at a discount, though white and lemon

(Clumber colour) is hailed as a rarity. All said and done, nothing is more telling to the eye than a level team of smart, glossy blacks.

Mr. James Farrow, who has kindly supplied me with a photograph of one of his famous strain of spaniels to reproduce as an illustration, and who has bred something like 2500 spaniels in his long experience, and reached the top of the tree so far back as 1873 (when he carried off the first prize for the best spaniel in the show at Manchester), criticising a bench of cockers which he had judged, made the following observation in a recent contribution to the *Kennel Gazette* :—

The lack of freedom and liberty in action in many of our to-day cockers is a fault created by the whims of fanciers for short backs. Years ago our cockers were considered too long in the body, and no doubt this was so; fanciers said they must be shorter, which is correct; but fanciers (as, unfortunately is nearly always the case), directly an error is pointed out, rush from one extreme to another, and in cockers now the point seems to be to get them too short in the couplings, which means of course want of liberty. The result is you have a toy spaniel's action instead of that of a cocker proper. . . . The dark eye is another point which many of our cockers of the present day lack. . . . Short heads I also object to, and I do not mind whether we go back to the early dog-show days in this country, or take the first recognised illustration of cockers—that published in 1776 in *A Treatise on Field Diversions;* the head of a cocker should not be short and thick, but long, and, with the proper length, balance in strength of course. Nothing approaching the toy spaniel head is correct in a cocker. Another fault in our cockers, created, in my opinion, by the importation of foreign element in past days, is the too gay carriage of the tail. Some men I know allow that the tail of a cocker may be carried "a bit high"; the lower its carriage and action the better.

I have quoted the above because Mr. Harding Cox has permitted me to use a long letter on the cocker which was elicited by Mr. Farrow's article, and is as

interesting as it is informatory. I regret I have not space to quote this letter *in extenso*, but here are some of the salient points :—

With most of Mr. Farrow's strictures I heartily agree, though on some minor points I would fain join issue with him. Mr. Farrow very pertinently points out that there is a tendency with fanciers of almost every breed to rush to extremes as soon as they realise that they have been fostering some point of conformation detrimentally. It was so with field spaniels, when the eyes of those who considered themselves practical sportsmen were opened to the fact that a caterpillar had been evolved which was too inactive for the work it was supposed to perform; they immediately rushed to extremes, and tried to foist another insect, a daddy-long-legs to wit, on a longsuffering fancy—a creature which was still more useless as an aid to a gun. So it is with cockers. The fiat went forth that the modern cocker was too long in the back and too low to the ground; consequently we now see dogs proclaimed as champions who are weak and leggy, with no bone to speak of, and heads set into their shoulders without respect to neck. . . . My emphatic verdict is in favour of the moderately long, low dog, with plenty of liberty, plenty of bone, and very supple and active,—a miniature counterpart of what an unexaggerated field spaniel ought to be. . . . I agree with Mr. Farrow in denouncing the thick skulls, prominent light eyes, and short forefaces that too often appear on specimens that aspire to even championship honours. As long as judges indulge their fancy by placing "chump-headed" specimens ahead of "quality" there is but a sorry chance of seeing matters remedied. . . . I join issue with Mr. Farrow where he deprecates excess of feather; of course one can have too much of a good thing, but deficiency of feather is a most serious fault, and very detrimental to a cocker in the performance of his duties. . . . As for tail carriage, to throw a cocker right back for slightly elevated caudal appendage is unfair and illogical; the true test of tail carriage and action is only found when a cocker is using his nose; in the show ring he often elevates his stump half-mast to show his egotistical contempt for the strangers of his race with whom he has been brought into contact, unsought. . . . One point of great importance Mr. Farrow has missed: What about *perfectly flat*, fine, thick, glossy coats? Nowadays I see wavy-coated specimens winning prizes and even championships. It really seems as if it were time to introduce classes for "curly-coated" cockers.

*F. Holmes, photo.*

*Ch.* BOB BOWDLER.

*Jones, Son, & Harper, photo.*

*Ch.* BEN BOWDLER.

VARIETY COCKER SPANIELS.

PLATE XXVIII.

The following notes and criticisms from other contributors refer to the black variety of cocker spaniels :—

MR. CHARLES A. PHILLIPS.—The best of the breed are certainly of the right type, but many are inclined to be "toyish." More size would be of advantage to the breed. On the whole, the values of points are fairly correct; at the same time it would be difficult to get all judges to agree to the exact value of one particular point.

MR. F. E. SCHOFIELD.—Cockers are, in my opinion, better to-day than they have ever been. What breeders ought to remember is that they are sporting, not toy dogs. They are bright, merry little fellows when properly broken.

MR. WILLIAM CALESS.—I am satisfied with type, but would be glad if judges were more consistent, and stuck to one type. Of the sporting varieties of dogs none have gained a greater popularity in the last few years than the cocker. It is a sportsman's dog for all-round working ability, with no equal for flushing game out of thick cover, and turning rabbits out of hedgerows. As a companion he makes the best, being sharp and intelligent, good tempered and affectionate, handy in size and handsome in appearance—in short, beauty combined with utility. I hope breeders will remember the fact that a cocker is for active work, and for this he should not be too long or low, nor yet too short, in body, but cobby and proportionate.

Other fanciers (who wish to remain incognito) observe.—To-day's type is a good one, but bred too much for bench purposes. The utility of type should be a primary consideration; and to that end much shorter and more compact ear and less feather on legs would be advantageous.—I consider cockers are rather too long in the body, and think a shorter, more sporting-looking animal should be encouraged. The long, weedy, straight-haired cocker is not strong enough for sport, and should not be encouraged. I like a cocker as a lady's pet as well as a sporting dog. It is a sweet-breathed, healthy, affectionate creature. A cocker does not yap or make a noise; it is not a wild dog like a terrier, that rushes about. I consider it an ideal dog for a lady either in town or country.

Upon the subject of "any other variety cockers" I have the following criticisms :—

MR. R. DE C. PEELE.—I am certainly not satisfied, or how could we breed in hope of improvement. We want more liberty,

better shoulders and squarer muzzles. I agree with the point values as laid down pretty well, but not as adjudicated upon. For instance, *head and jaws*, 10; *stern*, 10; yet a dog with a gaily carried stern or a strong head, under some judges, is turned straight out of the ring, though neither point in any way affects its working qualities. It should be remembered that coloured cockers, as distinguished from blacks, were by no means popular until recently. They have always been in the hands of sportsmen, and have never been advocated as ladies' pets. Consequently they are more workmanlike in type, being longer legged, shorter bodied, and, as a rule, not as smooth in coat. Mr Porter's *Braeside Bustle* is the pillar of the stud, and its name should go down to posterity as *the* dog from which nearly every coloured cocker is descended.

MR. HENRY W. G. GARNETT (Hon. Sec. of the Cocker Club).—I do not find very much to complain of as to present type; the chief fault, in my opinion, is the tendency of breeders to breed too much on the lines of the field spaniel, too long and too low. A cocker should have a short back, and be higher on the leg than he is being bred at present. Efforts are, however, I am glad to say, being made to improve this. One of the chief charms to me is the varied colour of the cocker spaniel; a brace of blue or red roans, or black and tans, are, I think, as pretty a colour to the eye of the dog-lover as can be found. There is another point I am particular in, and that is expression. Many otherwise good dogs are spoiled by bad expression. It is necessary to a typical cocker to have a look of intelligence and brightness. Incessant tail action should also always be insisted on; in fact the dog should be required by judges to be a thoroughly active-looking animal, and able to do a good day's work,—not one that is bred purely for the purpose of being carried from show to show. The cocker is, in my opinion, unrivalled for working fences and rough ground; of course he requires careful handling, or shows a tendency to wildness. As a companion I do not know of any breed to excel him.

MR. CHARLES A. PHILLIPS.—The type is better throughout than it ever has been, but improvement could be made in many specimens by length of neck, squareness of muzzle, better bend of stifle, and general balance in outline—namely, avoiding extremes in either length or shortness of body. The cocker is undoubtedly one of the oldest of our spaniels. Early writers have divided the spaniel into three varieties—the water, the springer, and the cocker. It is worthy of note to find what an important

part the cocker has played in the production of field spaniels. In the early 'Fifties Mr. Burdett had a black and tan cocker dog *Frank*, which was mated to a black and white cocker bitch, *Venus*, the property of Mr. Mousley, and from this union was produced Mr. Burdett's black cocker dog *Bob* (K.C.S.B. 2107-2111), born in 1856. I may here mention there are several inaccuracies in the earlier volumes of the Stud Bood in pedigrees, colour, etc., the same dog appearing under different numbers. My authority for the above particulars being correct was the late Mr. T. B. Bowers, who took much trouble in verifying all the particulars of the spaniels. I am in possession of his stud books and show catalogues with corrections and memoranda. This year, out of pure curiosity, I traced the pedigrees of the black field spaniel *Bridford Boy*, the coloured field spaniel *Shillington Rona*, and the cocker *Sandy Obo*, all of whom won championships at Cruft's in 1903. I found these three dogs all traced their pedigree back to the black cocker *Bob*, before mentioned; so emphasising what I have already stated—namely, the great influence cockers have had in producing the field spaniel of to-day. Some fifteen years ago cockers had got to so low an ebb that only a few of the largest shows would provide a class for them. The 25 lbs. limit was then in vogue, and every spaniel that was under this weight was entered as a cocker, regardless of what type it represented. It became evident to those closely interested in the breed how impossible it was for this state of things to continue, and they set about putting their house in order. Notwithstanding all this muddle one breeder in particular, Mr. James Farrow, had kept his *Obo's* very consistent to type, and had bred some beautiful specimens. I might mention *Lily Obo* and *Frank Obo* in particular. The coloured specimens were then represented by Mr. H. J. Price's *Ditton Brevity* (black and roan), *Ditton Gaiety* (tricolour), and Mr. Robinson's *Beauty* (liver, white and tan), and *Rivington Merrylegs* (black and white), in my possession. Some of these were inclined to be plain in head and wide in chest; otherwise they were correct in type. What might rightly be described as the pillars of the cocker stud of their day and our day were the black Ch. *Obo* and the liver, roan and tan Ch. *Fop*, both of whom trace their pedigrees back to *Frank* and *Venus*, parents of *Bob*, aforementioned. Since then other sires have played a conspicuous part in continuing the breed, but they all contain the blood of either *Fop* or *Obo*. The cocker is now almost as popular as any breed of dog we have, and if we may judge by the entries at recent shows the most popular of the spaniel breed.

Whether it has now reached high-water mark or not it is difficult to predict, but with such breeders as Mr. James Farrow, Mr. Harding Cox, Mr. R. de C. Peele, Mr. J. Caless, and others still interested in it, the variety is hardly likely to suffer.

MR. HARDING COX.—The table of points requires revising, so that a level type may be agreed on and bred up to. There are three distinct types being shown. As matters stand it is a case of every one thinking his own crow the blackest, and when an exhibitor fails to produce a specimen of the once accepted type, he tries to pass off his "waster" as the ideal cocker. Any one in search of a really beautiful, lovable dog cannot do better than adopt this breed. Nothing beats them for use when pottering about with a gun, and they are easily entered to any variety of game. Most of them take to retrieving naturally, and some are excellent water-dogs. They have grand noses, and throw the tongue when hot on the line. Their action is full of go and spaniel character, but they are not too fast, and usually work pretty close to the gun. In the house they are particularly acceptable, being easily trained to cleanliness and order. Their glossy, high-bred appearance is far more attractive than that of the toy spaniel, and their size is very handy. Nothing can exceed their intense love of their master or mistress, and their extreme gentleness and affection. Great gentleness in handling and breaking them is essential; rough usage is fatal to the sensitive, high-bred cocker.

I do not know whether my risible muscles are more susceptible than is correct, but the following anecdote, sent me by one of my contributors, has made me chuckle so consumedly each time I have read it, that I reproduce it in the hope that it may have a like effect on my readers:—

The cocker's powers of reasoning are well defined. Likewise, under some circumstances, it evinces a disposition to jealousy, as may be gathered from the following reminiscence. At one of those happily combined small shows of dogs and poultry, which are occasionally arranged in Wales, a certain owner showed a smart cocker of which he was particularly proud, likewise a cockerel, which had a possible chance. It was a cold, miserable day, but the rooster was comfortably ensconced in a pen, well littered with straw; fed plentifully, made much of, and awarded first honours by a committee whose

thoughts were possibly more enamoured of roast chicken than matters canine. The poor unfortunate dog was tethered to a bench bare of straw, without food, and his only refreshment the rain that dripped through a series of holes in the roof of the marquee, apparently following him to every spot to which he moved to avoid it. In the ring he was treated with contempt, and undeservedly disgraced when the awards were arrived at. Prizeless and heartsore, he slunk behind his master, but his mind hard at work how to settle matters and level up with the prize cockerel, which crew defiance and taunts at him. Settled they were that night, when he incorporated the first prize and an admirable dinner—without waiting for it to be roasted.

*The Cocker Spaniel Club*, of which Mr. Harding Cox is the President, and Mr. H. W. G. Garnett the Honorary Secretary, looks after the interests of the breed. The annual subscription is the usual guinea. The following description is taken from the Club's publication :—

STANDARD OF POINTS OF THE BLACK COCKER SPANIEL

HEAD.—Not so heavy in proportion and not so high in occiput as in the modern field spaniel, with a nicely developed muzzle or jaw; lean, but not snipey, and yet not so square as in the Clumber or Sussex varieties, but always exhibiting a sufficiently wide and well-developed nose. Forehead perfectly smooth, rising without a too decided stop from the muzzle into a comparatively wide and rounded well-developed skull, with plenty of room for brain power.

EYES.—Full but not prominent, hazel or brown coloured, with a general expression of intelligence and gentleness, though decidedly wide-awake, bright and merry; never gozzled or weak, as in the King Charles and Blenheim kinds.

EARS.—Lobular, set on low, and not extending beyond the nose; well clothed with long silky hair, which must be straight or wavy, no positive curls or ringlets.

NECK.—Strong, muscular, and neatly set on to fine sloping shoulders.

BODY (including size and symmetry).—Not quite so long and low as in other breeds of spaniels; more compact and firmly knit together, giving the impression of power and untiring activity; the total weight should not exceed 25 lbs.

NOSE.—Sufficiently wide and well developed to ensure the exquisite scenting powers of the breed; colour black.

SHOULDERS AND CHEST.—The former sloping and fine; chest deep and well developed, but not too wide and round to interfere with the wide action of the fore legs.

BACK AND LOIN.—Immensely strong and compact in proportion to the size and weight of the dog; slightly drooping towards the tail.

HINDQUARTERS.—Wide, well rounded, and very muscular, so as to ensure untiring action and propelling power under the most trying circumstances of a long day, bad weather, rough ground, and dense covert.

STERN.—The most characteristic of blue blood in all the spaniel family may, in the lighter and more active cocker, although set low down, be allowed a slightly higher carriage than in the other breeds; but never cocked up over, but in a line with the back, although the lower its carriage and action the better. And when at work its action should be incessant in this, the brightest and merriest in the whole spaniel group.

FEET AND LEGS.—The legs must be well-boned, feathered and straight, for the tremendous exertions expected from this grand little sporting dog, and should be sufficiently short for concentrated power, but not so short as to interfere with its full activity. Feet firm, round, and cat-like; not too large or spreading and loose-jointed. This distinct breed of spaniel does not follow exactly on the lines of the larger field spaniels, either in lengthiness, lowness, or otherwise, but should be shorter in the back and rather higher on the legs.

COAT.—Flat or waved, and silky in texture; never wiry, woolly, nor curly; with sufficient feather of the right sort, viz., waved or setter-like, but not too profuse, and never curly.

COLOUR.—Jet black; a white shirt frill should never disqualify, but white feet should not be allowed in any specimens of self-colour.

GENERAL APPEARANCE.—Confirmatory of all indicated above, viz., a concentration of pure blood and type, sagacity, docility, good temper, affection, and activity.

## STANDARD OF POINTS FOR ANY OTHER VARIETY COCKER SPANIEL

Head, eyes, neck, body, shoulders, chest, back, loin, stern, feet, legs, coat (except in colour), and general appearance, the same as in the black cocker.

NOSE.—Dependent on the colour.

COLOUR.—Black and tan; liver and tan; liver; black, tan, and white; liver, tan and white; lemon and white; roans; and, in fact, nearly any combination or blending of colours.

POINT VALUES—

| | *Positive Points* |
|---|---|
| Head and jaws | 10 |
| Eyes | 5 |
| Ears | 5 |
| Neck | 5 |
| Body | 15 |
| Fore legs | 10 |
| Hind legs | 10 |
| Carry forward | 69 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Brought forward . . | 60 |
| Feet . . . . . | 10 |
| Stern . . . . . | 10 |
| Coat and feather . . . . . | 10 |
| General appearance . . . . | 10 |
| Total positive points . . | 100 |

*Negative Points*

| | |
|---|---|
| Light eyes (undesirable, but not fatal) . . | 10 |
| Light nose (fatal) . . . . . | 15 |
| Curled ears (very undesirable) . . . | 15 |
| Curled coat (curly, woolly, or wiry) . . | 20 |
| Carriage of stern (crooked or twisted) . . | 20 |
| Top-knot (fatal) . . . . . | 20 |
| Total negative points . . | 100 |

*N.B.*—In "any other variety" the Standard of Positive Points is the same, but in Negative Points *subject to colour*.

*Illustrations.*—The four dogs I have selected for the illustrations of this section are (black cockers): Ch. *Ted Obo* and Ch. *Westbury Madge*, and (any other variety) Ch. *Ben Bowdler* and Ch. *Bob Bowdler*. Other dogs mentioned by my contributors as typical representatives of the breed were *Trumpington Ted*, *Betty Obo*, *Merry Girl*, *Sandy Obo*, *Chelmsford Cossie*, *Trumpington Kitty*, and *Braeside Dinah*.

Ch. *Ted Obo* is one of the best representatives of the famous "Obo" strain, which has been consistently kept pure in the kennels of Mr. James Farrow for thirty-eight years. *Ted Obo*, who is by *Frank Obo* ex Ch. *Lily Obo*, was born in August 1894, and won championships and prizes too numerous to catalogue. He weighs 24 lbs.

Ch. *Westbury Madge*, belonging to Miss Joan Godfrey, was bred by Mr. W. H. Roscoe, by *Toronto* out of *Westbury Peggy*. She was considered the most perfect black cocker bitch of modern times. When in tiptop form she had lovely coat and quality, with typical head, beautifully placed ears, and deep, round, brown eyes of ideal size and expression. She was also most symmetrical, neither too long in the back nor too "jumped up," with big bone and straight front. She was the winner of five championships and over fifty first prizes. Unfortunately, none of the pups born to her survived.

Ch. *Ben Bowdler* was bred by Mr. Henry Smith, by *Braeside Bustle* out of *Colwyn Bee*, and born in June 1899. He is the property of Mr. R. de C. Peele, who describes him as "an active, restless dog; no merrier cocker has ever been exhibited." He is a blue roan, standing 11 inches at shoulder, and weighing 22 lbs., with very dark eyes, ears carried low, fair length of leather, profusely feathered, tail carriage low, and with typical cocker motion. He is a worker, not a toy. He has won four championships and many first prizes, and has proved himself particularly successful at stud, having sired, amongst others, Ch. *Bob Bowdler*, *Flash Spot*, *Chishill Daisy*, and *Rolyat Roy*—all heavy winners.

Ch. *Bob Bowdler* was bred by his owner, Mr. R. de C. Peele, and is by Ch. *Ben Bowdler* ex *Judy Bowdler*, thus presenting one of the few coincidences in this work of sire and progeny figuring as typical illustrations. *Bob Bowdler* was born in September 1901, and is a beautiful light blue roan in colour, with probably the best head and ears seen in a cocker spaniel for many years. He weighs 23½ lbs., is absolutely straight in front, has a perfectly balanced body, and is as active and as merry as a cocker can be. He has been shown seven times up to the date of his being photographed, and only sustained defeat once, winning challenge prizes under such judges as Mr. Schofield, Mr. Gray, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Phillips.

*A. H. Stickells, photo.*

ENGLISH WATER SPANIEL.

LUCKY SHOT.

PLATE XXIX.

# THE WATER SPANIEL

## THE ENGLISH WATER SPANIEL

IN the wide-spreading spaniel family, as developed in this twentieth century, there are two varieties of water spaniels—the English and the Irish, and the former of these is one of the oldest, and certainly the rarest of the race—so rare indeed that many writers speak of it as extinct. At the Kennel Club Shows of the last four years there were only three specimens benched in 1900, four in 1901, four in 1902, and none in 1903; and of these eleven entries nine were made by Mr. J. H. Stansfeld, the foremost and most enthusiastic fancier of the breed. Wherefore I account myself fortunate to have received a contribution from him, and especially the following interesting note:—

The breed of English water spaniels is a very old one—one of the oldest in the British Isles, and for this reason should be of great interest from a dog-lover's point of view. The original breed was probably imported into England at least as far back as the Tudor period. Edmund de Langley (1378-1465), in a book translated almost word for word from the French of Gaston Phœbus, gives an account of the breed, in which he speaks of its diving powers. This book certainly applied to the condition of things in England as much as in France, for where the customs of the two countries differ, de Langley makes additions. The water spaniel is also described by Caius, and was quite common in England during the Stuart period, being referred to by numerous

writers, such as Blome, Surflet, Markham, and others. Shakespeare speaks of it in the *Two Gentlemen of Verona*. The breed was probably largely crossed with the land spaniel, and by the beginning of the nineteenth century the original breed was almost lost. About this time, or rather earlier, fresh importations of dogs probably took place from France, and we begin to hear for the first time of the rough water-dog, which was the same as the barbet of France, and was the progenitor of the modern poodle. The English water spaniel of the nineteenth century was almost certainly produced by a cross between the water-dog and the English springer spaniel, with, very likely, some of the old English breed in it as well. The English water spaniel continued to be much prized in England until the gradual draining of the fen country did away with its object. It then became gradually lost by being crossed with the springer. The nearest approach to it at the present day can be seen in the numerous very curly-coated springers to be met in country districts. The curly-coated retriever has also much of the water spaniel blood in him, being the outcome, probably, of a water spaniel and a Newfoundland cross.

I am glad to be able to supplement these notes with one or two I have been able to pick up from other sources. The description of Dr. Caius, for instance, runs as follows: "The water spaniel is that kind of a dog whose service is required in fowling upon water—partially through a natural towardness, and partially by diligent teaching is endued with that property. The sort is somewhat big, and of a measurable greatness, having long, rough, and curled hair, not obtained by extraordinary trades, but given by Nature's appointment." In the *Sportsman's Cabinet* (1802) the dog is described as having the hair long and naturally curled, not loose and shaggy. I am able to give a reproduction of Reinagle's English water spaniel of the same period; indeed the article in the *Cabinet* was illustrated by a copy of Reinagle's picture. Youatt, about forty years later, describes the "water spaniel as originally coming from Spain; the pure breed has been lost, and

the present dog is probably descended from the large water-dog and the English setter. Mr. Rawdon Lee believes the old English spaniel and the water-dog

ENGLISH WATER SPANIEL (1803). *After Reinagle.*

WATER-DOG OR BARBET.

were identical, but in this I am unable to follow him. An authority, writing in 1843, gives an illustration of the water-dog, which I reproduce, and says in his letter-press: "The water-dog must not be confounded with

the water spaniel, compared with which it will be found much more robust. Its coat is curly and shaggy, and generally variegated with black and white, but some individuals are brown and white, or nearly all white. The muzzle is short and abrupt, and the tail rather short, and carried erect. The aquatic habits of the dog, its acute sense of smell, its great sagacity and strength, render it a highly useful servant to the numerous gunners of the north of England and Scotland, who live chiefly by shooting water-fowl, in the retrieving of which it exhibits the highest degree of docility and hardihood. The dog is often kept on board ship to recover articles which may have fallen into the water." The same authority gives a cut of the large water spaniel and the small one ; the former, he says, is probably descended from the common spaniel and the large water-dog ; the latter he thinks a sub-variety of the same breed, and describes it as combining the aquatic propensities of the water-dog with the fine hunting qualities of the spaniel. The illustration depicts a white and liver dog very like Reinagle's, but a little longer in the leg. The large water spaniel indicated is black with white or grey shadings, and more of the Newfoundland type. All these descriptions and illustrations combine to show how popular and well known the water spaniel originally was. Nowadays it wants a "lucky shot" to find a typical one for the purposes of a single illustration, and I consider myself extremely fortunate in having secured a photograph of Mr. Stansfeld's *Lucky Shot*, which bears a distinct generic resemblance to an old breed, that has not been unsung in poetry, for Cowper has left us some stanzas on the intelligence and skill in retrieving of his water spaniel *Beau*.

The description of an "ideal" English water spaniel from Mr. Stansfeld is as follows :—

MR. STANSFELD'S IDEAL ENGLISH WATER SPANIEL.—The English water spaniel's vocation in life was that of assisting his master in the hunting of wild-fowl in the fens and other marshy districts. My ideal therefore should be essentially workmanlike in appearance, hardy in constitution, and untiring in disposition. His head should be long and narrow, with rather small but very intelligent eyes, neither light in colour nor brown, but hazel; his muzzle strong and deep; his nose large; his coat very dense, being composed of tight, crisp curls, almost like astrakhan, which should cover the body, leaving only the top of his head, his face, and the front of his legs smooth. This density of coat helps to protect him from the cold of the water. My ideal water spaniel should be a very strong swimmer, able to continue all day in the coldest weather. For this reason his loins should be strong, his legs straight, with great bone and muscle, and his feet large and spreading, so as to act like the web of a duck's foot. In size he is rather larger than the springer, his colour being liver and white for choice, though liver, black, and black and white are equally correct. His body is round, with well sprung ribs; his neck thick and short; his tail, which is covered with thickly curled hair, may be slightly curved upwards, though not above the level of his back. His manners and movement indicate utter indifference; he generally may be seen lounging about with an expression of boredom in his face, which gives way, instantly, to a look of wonderful delight and intelligence on the arrival of a friend, and the possibility of a day's hunting. He is not quarrelsome, but does not make friends easily; though when he does he never forgets, and the faithfulness of the breed is phenomenal. To me the English water spaniel is the most ideal companion a sportsman can have.

I have but few criticisms on the type of the breed as it exists to-day. Mr. Stansfeld is not satisfied with type, considering "the coat should be more curly, and the dog a trifle higher on the leg. The head is not right yet, as it has a trifle too much of the English springer, and not enough of the water spaniel type, which is long and rather narrow." Messrs. Tilley Brothers think "there are very few of the old style type of the breed, and many sorts and types of so-called English water spaniels. They are inclined to be too

long and low for practical use; having used them largely, we find them most useful, with little coat on face, and hair of legs in long narrow curls, on body and tail short and flat, preference being given to the liver colour. We would like to see the breed noticed more, it being most intelligent, good tempered, hard working, and quick retrieving under great difficulties; also the most persevering of any breed of spaniels." Mr. Winton Smith considers coat is not nearly curly enough. Mr. Stansfeld adds, The breed is exceptionally intelligent, docile, easy to train, and no day's work is too long for them. It is not noisy, and therefore especially good for water-fowl shooting. It used to be celebrated for its diving and its power of withstanding cold.

### STANDARD OF POINTS OF THE ENGLISH WATER SPANIEL

HEAD.—Long, somewhat straight and rather narrow, muzzle rather long, and, if anything, rather pointed.

EYES.—Small for the size of the dog.

EARS.—Set on forward, and thickly clothed with hair inside and out.

NECK.—Straight.

BODY (including size and symmetry).—Large, and very deep throughout; back ribs well developed, not quite so long as in field spaniels.

NOSE.—Large.

SHOULDERS AND CHEST.—Shoulders low, and chest rather narrow but deep.

BACK AND LOINS.—Strong, but not clumsy.

HINDQUARTERS.—Long and straight; rather rising toward the stern than drooping, which, combined with the long shoulder, gives him the appearance of standing higher behind than in front.

STERN.—Docked from 7 to 10 inches, according to the size of the dog, carried a little above the level of the back, but by no means high.

FEET AND LEGS.—Feet well spread, large and strong; well clothed with hair, especially between the pads. Legs long and strong; and stifles well bent.

COAT.—Covered with crisp curls or with ringlets; no top-knot, but the close curl should cease on the top of the head, leaving the face perfectly smooth and lean looking.

COLOUR.—Black and white, liver and white, or self-coloured black or liver. The pied for choice.

GENERAL APPEARANCE.—Sober looking, with rather a slouching gait

and a general independence of manner, which is thrown aside at the sight of a gun.

VALUE OF POINTS—

*Positive Points*

| | |
|---|---|
| Head, jaw, and eyes | 20 |
| Ears | 5 |
| Neck | 5 |
| Body | 10 |
| Fore legs | 10 |
| Hind legs | 10 |
| Feet | 5 |
| Stern | 10 |
| Coat | 15 |
| General appearance | 10 |
| Total positive points | 100 |

*Negative Points*

| | |
|---|---|
| Feather on stern | 10 |
| Top-knot | 10 |
| Total negative points | 20 |

My illustration represents *Lucky Shot*, who carried off the first honours at the Kennel Club shows of 1900-01-02. He was bred by Mr. H. M. FitzHerbert, but his pedigree and date of birth are unknown. Mr. Stansfeld, his owner, describes *Lucky Shot* as follows: "Liver and white in colour, standing 22 inches at shoulder and weighing 50 lbs.; head long and narrow, with long, deep muzzle; eyes small, deep amber-hued in colour; ears well clothed with hair inside and out; body large and deep; large nose; shoulders low, chest deep, back and loins strong and muscular. Coat curly, very slight tendency to top-knot. He has won numerous first prizes and a championship on the show-bench, and obtained a first-prize certificate at field trials. In the illustration, owing to the unevenness of the ground, he appears to slope from shoulder to stern, instead of sloping, if anything, slightly the other way, as is the case really."

## THE IRISH WATER SPANIEL

ALTHOUGH we write and talk conventionally of "the Irish water spaniel," there were two varieties of the dog indigenous to Ireland—one in the north and the other in the south. The former was a dog with short ears, unfeathered, and a coat in which there was a good deal of white, so that it was often described as a brown and white dog. With which brief description it may be dismissed as having nothing to do with the subject of this section, which is confined to the south of Ireland variety, a liver-coloured dog, with long, fringed ears, that occasionally measured 30 inches from tip to tip of feather, a body covered with short, crisp curls, a comical top-knot on the crown of its head, and an absolutely bare face and tail, which gives the dog a very odd appearance, quite unlike that of any other breed.

The breed is not an ancient one, and probably came to be created about the first quarter of the last century. M'Carthy is the name with which to conjure in this fancy. He was foster-father to the breed, and gave a portion of his knowledge concerning it to the world through the columns of the *Field* something over forty years ago. Writing in 1859, he said that he had owned specimens of the breed for thirty years, and sent numbers of them all over Ireland and into England; and

*D. J. McLoughlin, photo.*

ROCK DIVER.

*Billingkurst, photo.*

*Ch.* HARP.

IRISH WATER SPANIELS.

PLATE XXX.

that the best dog he ever possessed was *Boatswain*, the ancestor of several of the modern dogs, for he was a grand old sire, who attained the age of eighteen years, and left a numerous progeny behind him. Mr. M'Carthy has left on record a description of the Irish water spaniel of his strain, which was about 22 inches at the shoulder, and carried ears that measured from 24 to 26 inches from point to point; the face from the eyes down being perfectly smooth, and the unfeathered tail short and stiff as a ramrod. But of whence the dog came, and how compounded, Mr. M'Carthy made no mention, and in this respect left the world very little wiser than when he found it. Still, he dowered it with a very fascinating species of dog, and perhaps he thought a gift horse should not be looked at in the mouth!

Happily, in this dilemma as to antecedents and component parts of the breed, I am able to avail myself of the particular knowledge of Mr. F. Trench O'Roorke, the Honorary Secretary of the Irish Water Spaniel Club, who is able to write with as great authority as any other living fancier, and has sent me the following note:—

The origin of the breed seems somewhat veiled in mystery. The late Mr. Justin M'Carthy, who first took up the breeding of this variety about 1830, and during thirty years or longer brought it to much perfection, is silent as to how he obtained his strains first. Doubtless in years gone by many crosses were tried with this spaniel, notably the bloodhound, retriever, poodle, and setter. Any such cross, however, is to be greatly deprecated. One of the most noted specimens of the breed in recent times, which certainly must be looked upon as a bright pillar of the Stud Book, was *Madam Blair*. This bitch was the result of breeding a daughter to her sire, her pedigree being by Ch. *Blair* ex *Juno III.*, by Ch. *Blair*, a grandson of Mr. M'Carthy's *Boatswain*. This bitch was only exhibited on two occasions: on the last, when she won at Dublin, she was disqualified for having a small portion of her tail removed, which up to this time appears to have been a

common practice, and I am informed on good authority that Mr. M'Carthy himself frequently had a small portion of the caudal appendage removed from his dogs. As a brood bitch, *Madam Blair* proved invaluable, and to every dog she was ever mated with produced most high-class specimens, amongst her progeny being Ch. *Duck O'Donoghue*, Ch. *Dymphna*, *Rock Diver*, and many other winners. This grand bitch came to an untimely end in my kennel some eight or ten years ago, and thus deprived the breed of the most typical specimen I have ever seen. Fifty years ago the Earl of Clancarty had a handsome strain of these dogs, which he crossed with a famous strain owned by Lord Howth, and, in later years, Colonel the Hon. le Poer Trench showed some descendants of these strains with much success. Amongst his many good dogs were Ch. *Harp* and Ch. *Erin*, who was sired by *Young Patsey*, a dog Colonel Trench purchased to cross with his strain, and combined the blood of several famous kennels, to wit, Mr. Skidmore's, Mr. Engleback's, and Captain Montresor's.

MR. F. TRENCH O'RORKE'S IDEAL IRISH WATER SPANIEL. —"I saw! what saw I? let him see!"

> Red were the rags his shoulders bore,
> And a high red wig on his head he wore,

as the old couplet runs; far in the distance, standing out unique and characteristic, unmistakable in outline for anything else; about 22 inches at shoulder, and scaling about 64 lbs., a personification of strength. His *colour* was of that rich shade of liver-puce, reminding one of the hue seen on the richest coloured plums that ever hung in a summer's sun, and without a white hair throughout; in some lights a distinct shade of red pervaded, and this, as his coat grows older, becomes more rusty-looking. (A strange coincidence that his *confrères* the Irish setter, Irish terrier, and Irish wolf-hound all have a tendency to this rusty red shade!) He was clad in a *coat* composed of the tightest, densest, close, crisp curls imaginable, entirely free from woolliness, and of a somewhat oily nature, wherewith he could brave the elements, come they ever so severe. His fore legs clad with long ringlets all round, though rather more profuse behind than in front, and his hind legs likewise clad behind down to the feet, but quite smooth in front from below the hocks. His *head* surmounted with long loose ringlets, about 4 inches in length, growing down gracefully into a well-defined peak between the eyes, leaving his face and brows quite smooth; this, the "top-knot," afforded the whole

head a shorter and more domed appearance than it really had, for his skull was of good length and capacious. His *face* was peculiarly long and perfectly smooth, this smoothness extending to his cheeks. His nose was large, and harmonising with the colour of his coat; his muzzle square; his mouth and even white teeth capable of carrying tenderly anything from a wild swan to a jack-snipe. Under his eyes was nicely chiselled, and the "stop" was not too pronounced. His *ears* were very large and long, set low and far back, lobe-shaped, and lying quite close to his cheeks, covered and fringed with long twisted curls, measuring nearly 30 inches from tip to tip across the head. His *eyes* were not large, of a rich dark hazel-brown, brimful of "native" cuteness; trusting and intelligent. His *neck* was long, arched, and strongly set into his shoulders (carrying the head well above the level of the back, and higher than in other breeds, doubtless indicating a clear conscience, merry heart, and frankness of nature, to look the "whole world in the face"). His *chest* was deep, large in girth, but not too wide between the fore legs; his shoulders strong, with ribs well sprung behind them, giving plenty of heart-room and power, and conveying to his *body* a rounded appearance; with *loins* well arched, short, deep, and wide, coupled to the most powerful *hind-quarters*, having long, very bent stifles, and hocks set lower, probably, than in any other breed of dog. His front legs were straight and strong of bone, with feet (not small) well protected with hair both over and between the toes. His *tail* was very short, and carried straight and stiff, with the merriest action when at work; thick at the root, where it was covered for about 3 inches with short curls, the remainder being quite smooth and tapering to a fine point. His *general appearance* was quaintness, strength, and power; he was as active as a steeple-chaser, and withal his action was peculiar, often suggesting he was walking on hot coals. His *temperament* was that of a very high couraged, impetuous dog, brimful of intelligence, never so happy as when trying to please his master, and he could readily be taught to do anything: invaluable for sporting purposes; no sea was too rough, no water too cold, no hardships too great for him, and when at home he was a child amongst children, and always a gentleman.

Turning now to the notes and criticisms of my contributors on the breed as it exists to-day, I have the following:—

MR. F. TRENCH O'RORKE.—There are several typical specimens of the breed in existence to-day, but the chief points

requiring attention are greater uniformity in size, many specimens being oversized and a still greater number being miserably undersized; light-coloured eyes, which are most undesirable and all too prevalent. The characteristics of good length of stifles and low set hocks, with very short stern, are points in which many of the best specimens of to-day fail, whilst others, though deep in chest, are sadly deficient in barrel-shaped body, being quite flat-sided. Of the dogs seen in recent years, in *type*, I consider *Rock Diver*, who won the championship at Dublin in 1898, when nine years old, as typical as any. In bitches, *Madam Blair* I would consider an easy first in type. I have used this breed during many years for every description of game shooting to be found in these isles. I have them trained exclusively to do the work of retrievers, and as such I have found them unexcelled. Easily trained, perfectly steady, with excellent mouths and the best of noses. With the yearly increasing practice of driving game I anticipate this breed has a great future, the peculiar persistency of their spaniel nature making them particularly useful as retrievers for this kind of shooting. They are excellent dogs in the water, and very hardy; unrivalled as companions, intelligence and good temper being the general rule.

MR. JOHN S. COWELL.—The most conspicuous faults of the present day are (1) light eyes, with haw showing too much; (2) scarcity of top-knot; (3) the coats are not the correct pure brown colour, and there is an absence of the short crisp curls. I think Ch. *Patsy Boyle* and *Tissington* are the best specimens we have at present of this breed. At the Royal Dublin Society's Show in 1902 I judged some of the largest, if not the largest, classes of Irish water spaniels on record, and had no difficulty in placing them first in their respective classes. But by this I do not wish to imply that they are perfect specimens of the breed; we have no Irish water spaniels to-day to compare with Mr. Skidmore's *Mickey Free*, or, referring to a later generation, to Ch. *Erin* and Ch. *Duck O'Donoghue*. It would perhaps be too sweeping an assertion to say that the Irish water spaniel is the most intelligent breed of dogs we have, as every fancier will probably hold that the breed he delights in is entitled to this exalted position. I had, therefore, better confine myself to spaniels, and as I have kept every variety except cockers, I can speak authoritatively on the spaniel family, and have no hesitation in placing Irish water spaniels first for intelligence as well as for sporting instinct. Not many months ago I took Madam Lucille Hill, the eminent operatic singer, over Mr. J. J. Holgate's kennels,

and when she saw his Irish water spaniels she exclaimed, "What a human look they have in their eyes! They almost seem to look in your eyes and read your very thoughts!" I am always at a loss to understand why this breed has never come to the front for sporting purposes as the other varieties of spaniels have, except in Ireland for duck and snipe shooting, as I know they are capable of doing the work of two or three breeds rolled into one. As well as being such valuable water-dogs, Colonel Trench uses his best show-dogs in mixed shooting over his estates, and also on grouse. I am firmly of opinion that if this breed were taken in hand by expert breakers they would carry all before them at our field trials, and I hope the day is not far distant when we shall see some entered to compete and do the work required by the judges at these meetings, as some of the qualities which other spaniels lack, such as pace, resolution, facing the thickest covert and retrieving, are their greatest characteristics. Then there would be an end to poodle coats, which some exhibits had at Dublin Show in 1902, and were permissible not many years ago, if not an actual *sine qua non* to win on the show-bench.

DR. RICHARD CAREY.—The type is well established, but what the breed wants is to be taken up by a great many more people than go in for them at present, and thus get it brought more prominently to the front. Volumes might be written on the dog, but, shortly, the Irish water spaniel is the most suitable dog for the sporting man who keeps but one dog, as it can so easily be trained to do a little of everything, and of course for duck shooting is unequalled.

MRS. F. CARTER MITCHELL.—I am not satisfied with type. I object to the undersized, weedy specimens that are exhibited now. Also to the overgrown, coarse, retrievery ones. Judges should insist more on standard size and weight being strictly adhered to. From a sportsman's point of view there is no better dog than an Irish water spaniel, for land as well as for water when properly broken. They are keen, clever, will stand any amount of work, and there are no better companions. Once a lover, always a lover of the native "curly-coat"! A person who has once owned an Irish water spaniel never seems to give them up.

LADY DUNLEATH pays the following tribute to the sporting qualities of the dog on land: Last year I shot two stags on a Saturday evening rather late. The stalker begged me to leave my Irish water spaniel *Dheelish* with him, as he wanted to try and track a wounded deer. I told her to drop beside the stag,

which she did, and I then returned to the lodge, ten miles away. The stalker put the deer on a pony and returned to the lodge, but when he arrived *Dheelish* was not with him. Early the next morning he started across the moor to look for her, and found her lying beside the other stag (which it had been too late overnight to remove), her idea evidently being that when the stag she was put in charge of was taken away it was her duty to transfer her guard to the other. She had not been fed since the night before, and had been out all day. Unless the training of these dogs is begun when they are quite young I find it very hard to get them steady; my best is one I began to train as soon as it had left its mother, and it is now quite perfect. The breed is a most fascinating one—clever, affectionate, faithful, and cannot be beaten as first-rate and very fast retrievers. I much prefer them to any other sort of retrievers.

Mr. Trench O'Rorke suggests an even more practical use than shooting to which the Irish water spaniel can be put—to wit, clothing its master. Some time ago he began collecting the castings from the coats of the dogs in his kennels, and in about four years saved 8½ lbs. weight from five animals. From these he had the cloth woven by the cottagers in his locality, from which was made an overcoat, described as "of fair weight, rough, something after the nature of Irish frieze, but softer and more comfortable to the touch, and in general appearance like a very high class specimen of the rough tweeds now so commonly worn." Such an example of ingenuity and originality is as curious as it is interesting, and to the sheep and the goat, the camel and the lama, may now be added the Irish water spaniel as one of those creatures which provides its master with raiment!

The Irish Water Spaniel Club, founded in 1890, is an institution containing over thirty members, a very strong committee, and elects twelve judges by ballot annually. Mr. F. Trench O'Rorke is the Honorary Secretary, and the subscription £1 a year. The

Club possesses two challenge cups and two breeders' cups, and issues an excellent Annual Report; in the last one to hand it is indicated that field trials and produce stakes for the breed may soon be established. The following is the Standard of Points it publishes:—

## STANDARD OF POINTS OF THE IRISH WATER SPANIEL

HEAD.—Capacious skull, rather raised in dome and fairly wide, showing large brain capacity. The dome appears higher than it really is, from its being surmounted by the crest or top-knot, which should grow down to a point between the eyes, leaving the temple smooth.

EYES.—Comparately small, dark amber, and very intelligent looking.

NOSE.—Dark liver coloured, rather large, and well developed.

EARS.—Set on rather low. In a full-sized specimen the leather should be not less than 18 inches, and with feather about 24 inches. The feather on the ear should be long, abundant, and wavy.

NECK.—Should be "pointer-like," *i.e.*, muscular, slightly arched, and not too long. It should be strongly set on the shoulders.

BODY (including size and symmetry).—Height at the shoulder from 20 to 23 inches, according to sex and strain; body fair sized, round, barrel shaped, and well ribbed up.

SHOULDER AND CHEST.—Chest deep, and not too narrow; shoulders strong, rather sloping, and well covered with hard muscle.

BACK AND LOIN.—Back strong, loins trifle arched and powerful, so as to fit them for the heavy work of beating through sedgy, muddy sides of rivers.

HINDQUARTERS.—Round and muscular, and slightly drooping towards the set on of the stern.

STERN.—A "whip tail," thick at base and tapering to a "sting." The hair on it should be short, straight, and close lying, excepting for a few inches from its root, where it gradually merges into the body coat in some short curls.

FEET AND LEGS.—"Fore legs" straight, well boned. They should be well finished with wavy hair all round and down to the feet, which should be large and round. "Hind legs" stifle long, hock set low; they should be well furnished except from the hock down the front.

COAT.—Neither woolly nor lank, but should consist of short, crisp curls right up to the stern. Top-knot should fall well over the eyes. It, and furnishing of ears, should be abundant and wavy.

COLOUR.—Dark rich liver or puce (to be judged by its original colour). A sandy light coat is a defect. Total absence of white desirable; any except a little on chest or a toe should disqualify.

GENERAL APPEARANCE.—That of a strong, compact, dashing-looking dog, with a quaint and very intelligent aspect. They should not be leggy, as power and endurance are required of them in their work. Noisy and joyous when out for a spree, but mute on game.

VALUE OF POINTS—

*Positive Points*

| | |
|---|---|
| Head and jaw | 10 |
| Eyes | 5 |
| Top-knot | 5 |
| Ears | 10 |
| Neck | 7½ |
| Body | 7½ |
| Fore legs | 5 |
| Hind legs | 5 |
| Feet | 5 |
| Stern | 10 |
| Coat | 15 |
| General appearance | 15 |
| Total positive points | 100 |

*Negative Points*

| | |
|---|---|
| Light yellow or gooseberry eyes | 10 |
| Cording, or tags of dead or matted hair | 12 |
| Moustache, or poodle hair on cheek | 5 |
| Lank, open, or woolly coat | 7 |
| A natural sandy, light coat | 8 |
| Furnishing of tail more than half-way down to sting | 7 |
| Setter-feathering on legs | 10 |
| White patch on chest | 6 |
| Total negative points | 65 |

*Disqualifications.*—Total absence of top-knot; a fully feathered tail, any white patch on any part of the dog, except a small one on chest or toe.

My illustrations reproduce Ch. *Harp* and a vignette of the head of *Rock Diver*. Ch. *Harp* was bred by the late Dr. Fletcher, and subsequently the property of Colonel the Hon. W. le Poer Trench. It was by Ch. *Blair* ex *Widgeon*. The photograph of the bitch was taken just after she had come out from having a swim, and had shaken herself. Mr. Trench O'Rorke remarks, "Although *Harp* is dead, the photograph of her will be a useful guide to modern breeders. It shows clearly the length of foreface and muzzle, and squareness and quality of the latter. It also shows her deep, well sprung ribs and most typical hindquarters, close-curled coat, and whip-tail. She won numerous championships and prizes, and was the dam of Ch. *Shaun* and other winners."

*Rock Diver* was the property of Mr. Trench O'Rorke, and by *Barry Sullivan* ex *Madam Blair*. He stood 21 inches high and

weighed 58 lbs. His owner held him to be a most typical specimen of the breed, especially in his beautiful head. He signalised his last public appearance by winning the championship at the Dublin Show when he was nine years old—a fitting climax to a long winning career. *Rock Diver* was phenomenally successful at stud, sired three champions, and was grandsire of the Irish Water Spaniel Her Majesty the Queen has lately accepted. During the last few years his progeny have practically monopolised all the prizes in the Irish Water Spaniel classes at dog shows.

# TERRIERS

*H. Montague Cooper, photo.*

AIREDALE TERRIER.

*Ch.* TONE MASTERPIECE.

PLATE XXXI.

# THE AIREDALE TERRIER

ALPHABETICALLY first in the sporting terrier group comes the Airedale—a sort of big strawberry on the top of the pottle, for he is by far the largest of his tribe, weighing double the average weight of his canine cousins. Indeed, there was a time when the question was debated whether the Airedale should not be grouped with the hound, and in the earlier days of his development he certainly had a very decidedly houndy look, as well as a houndy weight, and, if we may place reliance on the legends relating to his creation, a hound ancestry. For he is said to have emanated from a cross between an otterhound and a terrier — but whether Bull, Bedlington, Scottish, Irish, or "Working Yorkshire," and all have been mentioned in the conjunction, tradition cannot say with any degree of certainty.

The Airedale is a Yorkshireman, belonging to the valley of the river Aire, and Bingley, near Bradford, claims the honour of being his original birthplace. It is on record that a pack of otterhounds used to be kennelled at Bingley, which might account for one side of his pedigree; and it is a fact that before Dalziel finally christened him "Airedale" (at the suggestion of several early exhibitors and breeders) he was known indifferently as the "Bingley," the "Broken-

haired" or the "Waterside" terrier, and first exhibited under the latter name, which correctly indicates his amphibious qualities, for, in the words of one of my correspondents, he can "dive like an otter and swim like a fish," and water-rat hunting and killing is one of his incidental occupations. Which proclivity would seem to point to his foresire's instincts, for where there are not otters to be found, water-rats might, peradventure, perform the offices of a substitute, and the Airedale's nippiness in catching them in water hint of hereditary accomplishment.

There is no doubt the Airedale was bred in the first instance for water work—to be a rough-and-ready companion, a sportsman by riverside and on the moor, able to snap a rabbit, and not above frivolling with a rodent to create a "divarshun." Herein he displayed the terrier side of his character. His master was generally a working man in those early days, before the dog entered the realms of fashion; sometimes a gamekeeper, who recognised his "all-round" qualities, but more often a miner or a mill-hand. You may read of individual specimens of this versatile breed whose accomplishments included marking game, like a pointer; following it, like a hound; turning it out to the gun, like a spaniel; retrieving it, like a retriever; carrying letters, like a postman; bringing slippers, like a valet; playing with children, like a nurse; and guarding property, like a mastiff. Take him all round, and your Airedale is hard to beat for general utility.

Almost as varied as his accomplishments was his coat: of all colours from a light tan to a jet black, of all textures from silky to wire-haired, of all lengths from smooth to shaggy. Moreover, his eyes and ears were often light and large, like a hound's, and as for "type," you might have benched a dozen, each differing

from the other completely, and no one to decide which was the correct thing to aim at.

From this primitive chaos the Airedale's sterling merits, and the skill and patience of his devotees have rescued him, and enabled the breed to win its way to a recognised and established position in the very first ranks of the developed twentieth century dog. Early in the 'Eighties Birmingham granted Airedales a class, and in 1886 the Kennel Club admitted them into the register. Even then they had not relieved themselves of their houndy taint, but with this advancement they received more attention, and the Airedale of to-day is as perfect a terrier in character and appearance as its size will admit. This should vary from 40 to 45 lbs., though cases have been known of dogs scaling 60. Such excess would, of course, place them out of competition, but its occurrence is a tribute to their ancestry, and if a terrier, as its name implies, is a dog that goes to ground, the Airedale cannot justify its generic title. Otherwise he is "all there." His coat has been equalised to a dense, hard, wiry texture; his colours definitely decided on—black or grizzled body, with tan head and legs, and certain recognised markings; his eyes have grown small, dark, and keen: his ears no longer lollop, but have acquired the desired V-shape, the terrier carriage, and the size proportionate to that which we associate with the family; and his tail is docked in proper terrier fashion, though the Standard of Points still insists that it should not be carried "curled over the back"—a feat difficult of performance when it is only some 4 or 5 inches long.

I am indebted to Mr. Edward Wrightson Thorp, the Honorary Secretary of the Standard Airedale Terrier Club, for the following interesting notes on the variety, and his description of an "ideal" Airedale:—

It is a far-off cry since the days of the old waterside terrier, whose home was round about Bradford and the valley of the Aire (from which the dog now derives its name). No one could imagine that the shaggy-coated dog, which some twenty-five years ago accompanied the miner and the mill-hand in their leisure hours on ratting expeditions along the waterside, and, maybe, a little rabbiting on the squire's estate, would develop into the fashionable Airedale terrier of to-day. Probably no dog has undergone so great a change in its general appearance as the Airedale. The houndy expression, which used to be so marked a few years back, is less and less seen every year, and the efforts of Airedale terrier breeders to breed dogs uniform in colour and size, and full of terrier character, are being rewarded. The Airedale terrier is not only a dog good to look upon, but he is a very useful dog. He is first and foremost a genuine companion, his business-like style makes one feel that he is to be relied upon ; whether it is for right down hard work in the field of sport, or on the battlefield, for the Germans tested him in the late war in China, and did not find him wanting as an alert sentinel. My friend, Mr. T. P. Mallorie, of Waterside Kennels, Easton, U.S.A., who is a Yorkshireman, and the first to take Airedale terriers to America, informs me that on the other side of the Atlantic they are crossing Airedales with hounds to get a dog to hunt the bear. The result is a very useful and intelligent cross, which, unlike the hound, does not run in and attack his quarry, but gets round it, snapping at the bear, and so attracting its attention from the hounds until they get in and finish the work. Americans are of opinion that the Airedale in England is getting too short on the leg, and are very definite in their statement that they "want no more toys." This reminds me of Mr. Alexander Walker's idea of the size of an Airedale : "He should be well on the legs to enable him to walk along the waterside, without having to swim, and to get over the stone walls in Yorkshire, which a short-legged dog cannot do without being lifted." Mr. Walker was a Bradford man, and did a great deal for the breed in its early days. I have often heard it remarked by those who owned an Airedale that "they could not be without one," and I am not surprised, for the genuine affection he entertains for his master, together with the intelligence he displays, makes one love him.

MR. THORP'S IDEAL AIREDALE TERRIER.—The head being the first thing a judge looks at I will descrbe it. In a dog of about 44 lbs. weight it should not be less than 9 inches in length ; the skull and muzzle should be as nearly as possible in

equal proportions. The skull should be flat, except for the wee channel which runs up the centre from the stop to the occiput. The eye-bones should be nearly flat, not rounded; the jaws deep and strong, well filled up under the eyes and carrying plenty of whisker; the teeth white, strong, and level. I like the ears to be small and V-shaped, set well at the back of the head; when at rest, a little side carriage, but when excited carried somewhat higher. The eyes should be dark, *very dark*, almost almond in shape, and not more than one and a half inches apart at the stop. The nose of course should be large and *black*. Now we come to the neck: this should be of moderate length and thickness, gradually widening to the shoulder, and slightly arched. The shoulders should be flat, and shaping well into the back; front should not be too wide, back short in proportion to size, ribs well sprung, brisket deep, and showing a graceful line towards the flank. Stern should show plenty of muscle; tail set on high, and carried gaily; the hocks well let down; the legs with plenty of bone; the feet small, round, and very compact. The Airedale terrier being an animal intended to travel fast it is essential to have a good "roadway" between his legs, as in a horse; if he possesses this he is almost certain to be a good mover. As to coat, I like the head, front, and quarters, including the legs and feet, to be dark orange tan, and the saddle black, or only slightly grizzled; the texture of coat should be very hard, and lie flat. The man who has got a dog answering to the above description need not be afraid about getting a championship.

With this "ideal" dog in the mind's eye, I will proceed to give criticisms of the type as it exists to-day:—

MR. THOMAS BAINES.—The Airedale is nearing perfection, with the exception of coat, which in many of our noted winners are wavy; many judges do not pay attention to this all-important point.

MR. EDWARD BLUNT.—The present type is a decided improvement, taken all round, on the breed as it was a few years ago, though some of the best specimens have a leaning to the small side. Size, with quality, is what is required, and sound coats.

MR. E. W. THORP.—So many breeders have a type of their own, which they will persist in perpetuating, with the result that we see many thick-headed, weak-muzzled, light-eyed, houndy-expressioned specimens on the show-bench—a state of things

which must be very confusing to the novice. If all breeders took Ch. *Master Briar* (a grand old dog, who has done more for the breed than any other living to-day) as the type, and tried to breed dogs built on his lines, with very dark, well-placed eyes, coat hard and not wavy, colour black or dark, grizzled back, the head and quarters orange-tan, we should be on the road to getting a perfect Airedale terrier.

MR. E. H. ARMSTRONG.—There is a tendency to the hound type in several present-day winners. More attention should be paid to coat. I would disqualify a soft-coated dog, for an Airedale terrier's coat should handle like wire. I think we have reached the maximum size—45 lbs. dogs, and 40 lbs. bitches; this is plenty big enough. Any dogs that exceed the above weight are too large, and should be penalised accordingly.

MR. THOMAS BEAUMONT.—Breeders must pay more attention to produce a straight, sound coat, and good strong hindquarters. I have noticed how some breeders think more about the sire's blood and good points than the dam's. I think this is a mistake. To my mind let me have the best of blood on the dam's side, and keep your eye on quality and character. Then breeders would be more delighted to look at their efforts to turn out a real high-class terrier.

MR. HOLLAND BUCKLEY.—I am quite satisfied with the breed as it exists to-day, but coats require to be harder and more weather-resisting.

Several other correspondents express themselves as perfectly satisfied with the modern type, which is a pleasing tribute to the pitch approaching perfection arrived at by the breed. The popularity of the Airedale is reflected in the wide range of its recommendations. In a running paragraph as follows:—

"Very sensible and intelligent; will retrieve land or water; excellent in driving cattle, and will kill vermin against any other breed of dog; game as a pebble, and first-rate guard."—"Good all round; can be trained to anything. What a dog can do, an Airedale will do it."—"Dives like an otter, swims like a fish, and is a great hunter, and *quiet;* the best possible companion; no day is too long for him; absolutely safe

with children; without a doubt the very best dog extant."—"Such a game, sensible companion! Such a stayer!"—"Pre-eminently the best all-round dog for 'sport.' No work is too hard, no day too long. As watch-dog, vermin-killer, hunter, and water-dog, he stands out. He can be trained to sheep, and two which I owned are used by a farmer here, doing their work well, and giving general satisfaction."—"I have kept Airedale terriers for many years, and used them for rabbiting and ratting; my chief delight now is to take my dogs for a walk along the waterside, and watch them hunting for rats. I have an old dog, nearly ten years old, but as game as a two-year old, who fetches the letters from the door every night, and when I sit down to take off my boots away the old boy goes for my slippers; but he won't bring any one else's."—"The Airdale can do the work of a spaniel or a retriever; as a water-dog is equal to a Newfoundland, and for waterside hunting cannot be beaten, whilst for gameness he can take his own part with anything. His general outline, coat and colour and hardy appearance make him one of the handsomest and most useful units in the canine race."—"The best all-round dog living; it is difficult to put him to the wrong work; an excellent dog with the gun; will face a badger or otter; and no one could get a better companion."

Of the intelligence, I may even say the political wisdom, of the Airedale, Mr. Blunt supplies the following conclusive proofs:—

To show you the amount of intelligence and tenacious memory of some of the breed I may mention the following true facts. I once bought an Airedale terrier at High Wycombe and sold him to a gentleman who lived near Lake Windermere. Afterwards he was re-sold to a gentleman who lived in London.

And then, after being away for nearly two years, he managed to find his way back to his old master at High Wycombe. As a puppy he had been taught many tricks; not one of these had he forgotten, but on his return to his old home went through them all again as perfectly as before he left. Another Airedale I owned was known as the Political Dog. He was reared by a lady who was a staunch Conservative, and he would not touch the best of mutton chops or beef steaks if told it was "Radical," but could be persuaded to take even medicine if assured it was "Conservative" or "Beaconsfield." When I had old *Willow Nut*, before he went to America, I have seen him dive and fetch things from the bottom of the canal; and a larger specimen of the breed that a gamekeeper trained for me would retrieve a bird to hand, and scarcely disturb a feather, and work with the gun and find game that other sporting dogs had passed over.

The Airedale terrier is well looked after in the matter of specialist clubs, there being no less than four devoted to his interests. The *Airedale Terrier Club*, of which Mr. Edward Blunt is the Honorary Secretary, has a membership of over fifty. The entrance fee is 10s. and the annual subscription the same. The *Standard Airedale Terrier Club*, founded in 1903, is a new institution, with a very strong committee, nearly twenty club judges, and its Honorary Secretaryship is in the hands of Mr. Edward Thorp, whose enthusiasm for the breed predicts success for his club. The entrance fee and subscription are each half a guinea. Other clubs are the *South of England* and the *National Airedale Terrier Clubs*. From the published book of the first mentioned I extract the following description:—

STANDARD OF POINTS OF THE AIREDALE TERRIER

HEAD.—Long, with flat skull, not too broad between the ears, and narrowing slightly to the eyes; free from wrinkle. Stop hardly visible, and cheeks free from fulness. Jaw deep and powerful, well filled up before the eyes; lips tight; ears V-shaped, with a side carriage, small, but not out of proportion to the size of the dog; the nose black; eyes small, dark in colour, not prominent, but full of terrier expression; teeth strong and level.

NECK.—Should be of moderate length and thickness, gradually widening towards the shoulders, and free from throatiness.

SHOULDERS AND CHEST.—Shoulders long, and sloping well into the back; chest deep, but not broad.

BODY.—Back short, strong and straight; ribs well sprung.

HINDQUARTERS.—Strong and muscular, with no droop; hocks well let down; the tail set on high, and carried gaily, but not curled over the back.

LEGS AND FEET.—Legs perfectly straight, with plenty of bone; feet small and round, with a good depth of pad.

COAT.—Hard and wiry, and not so long as to appear ragged; it should also lie straight and close, covering the dog well all over the body and legs.

COLOUR.—The head and the ears, with the exception of dark markings on each side of the skull, should be tan; the ears being of a darker shade than the rest, the legs up to the thighs and elbows being also tan. The body black, or dark grizzle.

SIZE.—Dogs, 40 to 45 lbs.; bitches slightly less.

*Note.*—That as it is the unanimous opinion of the *Airedale Terrier Club* that the size of the Airedale terrier, as given in the above standard, is one of, if not the most important characteristic of the breed, all judges who shall henceforth adjudicate on the merits of the Airedale terrier shall consider under-sized specimens of the breed severely handicapped when competing with dogs of the standard weight. And that any of the club's judges who, in the opinion of the committee, shall give prizes, or otherwise push to the front dogs of a small type, shall be at once struck off from the list of specialist judges.

In the Standard of Points given by the *Standard Airedale Terrier Club*, there is a paragraph added for—

ACTION.—The gait should be free and full of liberty; the elbows should remain tight under the shoulder; the hocks should not be bowed outward or bent inwards (cow-hocked). The forward movement of the legs should be quite straight, and the feet should be lifted clear of the ground; but on no account should the action be too stilted or springy. And there is given the following *Important Advice to Judges*:—Judges are strongly recommended to pay careful attention to the above Standard of Points, and to judge strictly in accordance with the same. Their attention is particularly called to the desirability of improving the breed by penalising soft or wavy coats, light eyes, or any terriers obviously above or below the standard size or weight. The size approved is 20 inches at the shoulder for dogs, and 19 inches for bitches.

No point values are given in any of the club's publications, but Mr. E. Thorp kindly supplies the following:—

POINT VALUES OF THE AIREDALE TERRIER—

| | |
|---|---|
| Head, eyes, ears, and mouth . . . | 20 |
| Neck, shoulders, and chest . . . | 15 |
| Body . . . . . | 10 |
| Carry forward . . | 45 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Brought forward | 45 |
| Hindquarters and stern | 10 |
| Legs and feet | 15 |
| Coat and colour | 15 |
| Weight | 10 |
| Expression | 5 |
| Total | 100 |

This differs from the old scale, which was, I believe, originally advocated by the Airedale Terrier Club, to wit: Head, ears, eyes, and mouth, 20; neck, shoulders, and chest, 10; body, 10; hindquarters and stern, 5; legs and feet, 15; coat, 15; colour, 10; general character and expression, 15—total, 100.

The chief disqualifications comprise a Dudley nose, white on throat, face, or feet (on other parts of the body objectionable), an uneven mouth, and being either undershot or overshot.

Amongst the most typical Airedale terriers of the day the names are mentioned of Champions *Tone Masterpiece*, *Master Briar*, *Clonmel Monarch*, *Dumbarton Sceptre*, and others, and I have selected the first named for illustration.

Ch. *Tone Masterpiece* is the property of Mr. C. H. Elder, and was bred by Mr. J. Turner, by Ch. *Master Briar* ex *Houston Nell*, and was born in September 1899. He is a black and tan dog of correct type, with small, dark eyes; well placed, small ears, correct high carriage; straight coat of hard texture; beautiful body, well sprung ribs; best of legs and feet, and very stylish and full of terrier character. In the illustration he is seen straining at his lead, which does injustice to his feet, which are perfect; he stands right up on his toes. He has won eleven championships, eight of them in 1903 under eight different judges, and innumerable first prizes, not having once sustained defeat in that year. He is the sire of Ch. *Dumbarton Sceptre*, and other winners.

*K. Broadhead, photo.*

BEDLINGTON TERRIER.

*Ch.* BREAKWATER GIRL.

*C. J. Hopkins, photo.*

DANDIE DINMONT TERRIER.

*Ch.* BRAW LAD.

PLATE XXXII.

## THE BEDLINGTON TERRIER

AS terrier ancestry goes, the Bedlington can claim a highly respectable antiquity. Its pedigree is lost in those oft-quoted "mists of obscurity," which seem a stock phrase in writing of the origin of the terrier family, but the mists date farther back than the general. More than one monograph has been written on the Bedlington, and more than one shot made at its earliest history, and to this day you shall find its argument able to fire the blood up in the North, where the burly Northumbrian fancier would have you understand that he knows more about its ancestry than is dreamt of in the philosophy of Southern fanciers. Be this as it may, and I am the last to dispute it, here are three or four versions to add to the collections of "true and original" histories of the derivative from whence the Bedlington sprung.

A former Honorary Secretary of the Bedlington Terrier Club tells us that sometime at the end of the seventeenth or beginning of the eighteenth century there lived a certain William Allan in Rothbury Forest, Northumberland, who owned a strain of rough terriers, and was famed for his skill in hunting the otter, and showing sport to those who engaged his services. To him was born in 1720, in a gipsy camp in Rothbury Forest, a son named James, who became a famous

piper, or wandering minstrel, I take it. He inherited his father's canine stock, which included two favourites known as *Peachem* and *Pincher*, and amongst their descendants occurs the name *Piper*, given to the terriers in pious memory of the piper aforesaid. And of this *Peachem* it is recorded that his master was wont to observe, "When *Peachem* gives tongue I dare always sell the otter's skin." This line of research dates back to 1782, when the breed was known as the Rodberry or Rothbury terrier. Another antiquarian traces the family tree of the Bedlington back to a terrier named *Old Flint*, who belonged to a certain Squire Trevelyan in the North country, and was whelped in the year 1782 also. A third groper in the mists would have us believe that the Bedlington was an importation from Holland, "but all the Holland about him," says Mr. Rawdon Lee, "was that Mr. Tapnell Holland was one of his great supporters in the 'Sixties, and a leading exhibitor of the variety in its early days." A fourth yarn, if that expression is permitted, traces the breed back to a couple of terriers, named *Peachem* and *Pincher*, owned by Mr. Edward Donkin of Flotterton, who was master of a pack of foxhounds that hunted the Rothbury country, and whose terriers achieved a surprising fame for their keenness in their work.

With these four reputed avenues of descent offered him, the reader, who has paid his money, may, so to speak, take his choice. For myself, whilst I "hae ma doots" about human family pedigrees, having some experience of the methods by which they are manufactured, I do not harbour any about canine pedigrees of the eighteenth century, being persuaded they leave no room for doubt, but only a certainty that they are fanciful and imaginative. Still, granted that in or about 1782 there was a breed of Rothbury terriers,

whereof certain units were known as *Peachem*, *Pincher*, and *Piper*, the singular coincidence does remain that these particular names (possibly inherited) certainly appertained to the Bedlington terrier when he came to be known as such in or about the year 1820. "What's in a name?" asks the dramatist; in this instance there may be something more in it than appears on the surface. For eighty years ago we find Ainsley's *Pincher* and Anderson's *Pincher*, Ainsley's *Peachem* and Donkin's *Peachem*, and Donkin's *Piper* and Turnbull's *Piper*, all posing as ancient pillars of the Bedlington breed in the vicinity of Bedlington. If Piper Allan's terriers were so noted as to have left similar names on record, it is easy to understand that their names may have been perpetuated in their progeny. And for the Bedlington terrier of 1825, be it noted, it was a dog scaling about 15 inches, and weighing as many pounds; liver or blue coloured; the hair hard and linty; the head tufted with lighter-coloured hair, of a silkier texture; the ears long, and hanging close to the cheek, with slight feathering on the tips; and slender and lathy in build. And the first owner and breeder of this type proper was named Joseph Ainsley.

During the next four decades many attempts were made to improve the breed by introducing crosses from others, mostly terriers, although an otterhound cross is mentioned. The result was not satisfactory. Always a game dog and a fine water-dog, the Bedlington wanted nor bull-terrier nor otterhound blood to inspire it with pluck or a love for swimming. You may read wonderful tales of its dash and spirit in many books; how, for instance, Ainsley's *Piper* was entered to badger when he was only an eight-months' pup; how thirteen years later, when he had not a tooth left in his head, he drew a badger where younger dogs had failed; and

how, also in his hoary old age, he protected his mistress's baby from the attack of a savage sow. Legend gathered round that old hero, and to this day his memory is green, and his strain of blood valued in the pedigrees of those who are proud to own dogs claiming him as foresire. And of other dogs there are many who earned local fame in contests with foxes, otters, and badgers; dogs who have tackled snakes; and one who performed the marvellous feat (for a dumb animal) of extinguishing a lighted candle or piece of burning paper at its master's bidding. Such sterling qualities could not fail to be appreciated by the sporting spirit that characterises the Northumbrian; the breed was fostered, if the circle was narrow, and without the aid of specialist club, or the incentive of popularity, the Bedlington survived by its right to survival as a game, plucky, typical Northumbrian terrier. And that is a claim to consideration which every true dog-lover will allow, for none can appeal more forcibly.

Nearly fifty years had to pass before the Bedlington won its way south. One of the earliest notices of the breed occurs in *The Field*, which gave an illustration of a couple of Bedlington terriers in 1869, one, be it noted, bearing the historic name of *Peachem*, and weighing 21 lbs., and its mate, *Fan*, weighing 15 lbs. It would thus appear that the breed had increased in size (for Ainsley's *Piper* was a 15-lb. dog), and has since then further increased, for the standard weight now is 24 lbs. for dogs, and 22 lbs. for bitches, though the height remains the same, viz., from 15 to 16 inches. A correspondent, Mr. William Morris, informs me that the first show at which Bedlington terriers were exhibited was the Darlington Show in 1866; other authorities say at a show at Bedlington itself in 1870. But its first public appearances down south were at the

Birmingham Show in 1870, and the Crystal Palace in 1871. In 1875, the jubilee of the terrier's christening, the Bedlington Terrier Club was formed, and flourishes to this day with a membership of nearly seventy, whereof three-quarters belong to the North—a localisation of patronage which is a reflex of the somewhat narrow circle of Bedlington popularity. For, truth to tell, it is probably the least popular of dogs out of its native districts, and but little fancied beyond its own latitude and longitude.

To those who love and appreciate him the Bedlington is far from the reproach of being an ugly dog. There is a certain pathos and a great intelligence in his expression that wins the way to the heart, and ladies, who have vowed in their haste that he had no beauty to commend him, have come to admit, at their leisure, that he is pretty. This I know for a fact. And he certainly is a shapely dog. But he has acquired a character for pugnacity and quarrelling; and these qualities cannot but prove a severe handicap to any animal. Then, again, he is a troublesome dog to "show," requiring "trimming" and "plucking," and giving rise to caustic criticisms. His fighting proclivities, and his speed and sporting instincts have, however, endeared him to the miners of the North, where the breed shows no signs of declining in popularity, even if it has been supplanted by the whippet as a racing dog. Newcastle, Gateshead, and Darlington remain the headquarters of the fancy, and the rings there are always crowded and the judging keenly followed — not unfrequently with a jealousy which is typical of the terriers themselves, for the green-eyed monster looms large in their consideration of their fellow-dogs.

Before proceeding to quote the criticisms and notes

which have reached me from my contributors in this breed, the description of an "ideal" dog will not be out of place, and I will therefore give

MR. HAROLD WARNES' IDEAL BEDLINGTON. — My ideal Bedlington terrier is of a dark-blue or dark-liver colour, with a nice domed skull, not thick, and a white, silky top-knot; a long head, sharp, punishing jaw, and small sunken eyes, set close together. The teeth level, clean, and white; the ears filbert-shaped, long, hanging close to the cheek, and with nicely feathered tips. Long slender neck, springing gracefully from the shoulders; nice compact body, well-arched loins, deep chest, and good straight legs, of nice length, making the dog look neither short nor leggy. Nice, large feet. A stern well set on, and carried well, not inclined to curl. Coat should be hard and wiry, about an inch long, standing up, and not curly. The expression should be kind and pathetic, not sulky, sour, or vicious. I cannot say that I have ever met with the above ideal, but my own dog *Cranley Piper*, and Mr. Alcock's Ch. *Humbledon Blue Boy*, were the nearest approach.

The following are criticisms of the type as it exists to-day, together with a few incidental notes on the breed by my contributors :—

MR. HAROLD WARNES.—I am satisfied with the type of the very, very few good ones, which can be enumerated on the fingers of one hand. What is wanted is more fanciers and those of the right sort, by which I mean persons who try to breed good ones for the improvement of the variety, and not solely with a view to making money. To my mind the Bedlington has not improved so much as it ought to have done. Too much consideration is given to length of head, and not sufficient to coat. Most of the specimens shown in recent years have had very soft coats, or very little coat at all. The mouths, too, in a great many, have been shockingly bad, probably due to in-breeding, from which the breed has suffered greatly. This is owing in some measure to the real fanciers being so few in numbers, and consequently few strains to breed from. Good dogs are scarce, and at the present price of Bedlingtons, and the small demand for them, this is not to be wondered at. The Bedlington has a very bad character for fighting and evil temper, but my experience of twenty years leads me to believe it is entirely the way in which they are brought up.

All mine have been of the sweetest disposition. When they do fight they are demons; but they rarely quarrel with other dogs, most of their rows being amongst themselves, and caused I believe by jealousy. And lastly, I should like to add a few words on the vexed question of "trimming," and the wholesale disqualifications which resulted from the action of a few people, who really do not understand the breed. I contend that Bedlingtons are no more trimmed than Fox, Irish, Airedale, Welsh, or Dandie Dinmont terriers, and I think it is very unfair to single out a weak breed, and make it the scapegoat, and leave the more popular breeds alone. My view of trimming is, Either do away with it altogether in all breeds, or leave exhibitors to make the best they can of their specimens for show. Do not prosecute one breed and practically allow others to go scot-free.

MR. T. H. AINSLIE (Hon. Sec. of the Bedlington Terrier Club). —In my opinion we have lost a good deal of the natural characteristics of the older breed of Bedlingtons. It is only rarely that one sees the rounded occiput that used to be such a peculiar mark of high breeding some years ago. The craze for long faces is to blame for this more than anything else I know of. I would like to see judges adhere more to the Standard of Points than they do; light eyes are one of the faults which seem not to be noticed and penalised as they ought to be; teeth also ought to be examined, and undershot or overshot dogs not put in the prize list. The coat is another bone of contention; there ought always to be a soft undercoat, and a *hard* long or outer coat. The size of a Bedlington is another disputed point amongst fanciers. In the days of the great *Goldsmith*, the medium-sized dog was the rage. *Goldsmith* was one of the best dogs of his day, if not the best dog; he had rather a short head—a fact 75 per cent of his admirers could never be made to believe; but it was so deep and narrow that the longer one looked the longer the head seemed. Moreover, he had that round skull, deep through the jaws, which is not often seen now. He carried all before him until a bad dose of inflammation carried him off. Poor Dryden, his owner, never looked up after his death; he was so much attached to the dog, and did not long survive his favourite. After him came *Clyde Boy*, probably the longest-headed Bedlington that was ever bred, and considered by many the best that ever lived. But he was a big dog; hence the followers of the smaller type would not have him as the correct article. I should think this dog had more ups and downs on the bench than any other Bedlington. He and *Goldsmith* were two dogs just the opposite

of one another as to size, and no two caused more discussion as to which was the correct stamp. It is the same to-day, only the bitches are in the ascendancy. I should like to see judges handle the terriers more in the ring; examine their coats and teeth, and make them move. It is impossible to see the points of a Bedlington standing still; he loses that peculiar snakey appearance so characteristic of the breed. And his legs and feet do not want judging, as if he were a fox or Irish terrier. Although the Bedlington terrier is often called the "pitman's dog," the expression is not correct, for notwithstanding that the colliery of Bedlington is the place they derived their name from, in the North every old fancier has his own theory as to where they originated from, and will look at young fanciers with a look that will quite wither them if they harbour an opinion different to his own. I do not think there is another breed of dogs over which there is so much disputing as to how they were produced, and where they came from.

MR. P. R. SMITH.—I think more attention ought to be paid to get darker coloured blues, and better coats, which should be short and twisty, but not woolly.

MR. JOHN COOK.—I am not quite satisfied with the type of to-day, especially the blue variety. Texture of coat is getting very bad; far too soft and light in colour. Ears are getting too high on the head, which makes them appear too flat at occiput; and there is not a good dark-eyed one on the bench to-day. I should like to see judges study the Standard of Points a little more, and stick to them in their awards. As a rule there is more in and out judging in this variety than in any other I know of.

MR. CECIL F. A. COOPER.—The tendency is to breed the dogs too big; 25 lbs. should be an absolute maximum. He wants to be bred more as a *terrier* and less as a "show variety"; less to head and more to feet, legs, and body. All plucking, faking, colouring, and powdering should be absolutely barred after due notice has been given—not before. Reds should be judged with blues, not separately, and should be valued equally with them. It is a great pity this beautiful breed is so little known and appreciated. The fault lies with dog shows, where he is exhibited as a nondescript "poodle-lap-dog," trimmed and faked until he looks as if he ought to be glued to a board, and lugged round by a child, like a woolly lamb! In fact he looks such a fool that I don't wonder folk do not buy him. But many men cannot afford to keep and breed dogs unless they are able to make a bit out of them, so, unfortunately, shows must exist. It is grossly unfair,

however, to encourage faking of all sorts, and leave it to the private enterprise of some one to exhibit an unfaked dog, and then make wholesale objections to dogs prepared for show in the way that has been customary for twenty years.

MR. WILLIAM MORRIS.—The Bedlington dog is an altered animal from what it was when I knew it first in the days of my youth, when they were never faked, trimmed, or plucked; this has quite changed their appearance. When I see some of the modern dogs I feel they would have little chance with a badger. Many of them now are terribly roach-backed.

The recommendations of the breed are as numerous as in the more popular ones. Thus: "Too much cannot be said in their favour as a sporting dog; they will do as much and a great deal more than any other terriers." —"The best dog 'pal'; game, extraordinarily intelligent; able to go all day long and come home merry as a cricket; well able to look after themselves in a scrape, but, in my experience, not quarrelsome."—"The best companion of any breed of terriers; dead game, and good hunters on land or water."—"There is a charm about the breed that is not found in any other; you can make him a house-dog, a gun-dog, a rat-dog, a badger-dog, or, if needed, he will bolt a fox for you. He will learn to do anything that a dog of his size can do. A most useful terrier for using with otterhounds or foxhounds."

Apart from the ideal show specimen (writes Mr. Harold Warnes), the Bedlington's claims as a social companion cannot be too prominently advocated. After all it is not so much a dog's appearance that attracts one as his "winning ways." I had an old favourite, with a long shaggy coat, and not a single show point, who was my constant companion for ten years. When I was in the house he always ascertained which room I was in (not being allowed indoors himself), and would sit outside the window so long as I was there, and if I went to another part of the house seemed to anticipate to what part I was bound, and on entering another room I would find him planted, in advance, outside its window. If I went out by the back-door, he was there to receive

me, and the same when I went out by the front. How he found out or guessed correctly what my movements would be I could never divine. Whenever I went by train he would accompany me to the station, in my absence meet every train that arrived, and when I returned there he was on the platform; he found out the arrivals of the trains by watching the porter of a hotel who went to meet each. My own shadow was not more faithful to me than that dog. A bitch I now have, Ch. *Miss Oliver*, is equally faithful, and has filled my poor old dog's place for the last five years. She is great pals with the house cat (although death on any other) and they go mole-hunting together. In fact, they seem to make appointments with one another, and nothing will convince me they have not got some means of communicating their thoughts and intentions. When the cat kittens the bitch watches her kittens whilst the mother is away; and when the bitch has puppies the cat is allowed into her kennel. I don't want a more loving creature or a better pal than a Bedlington terrier.

I take the following Standard of Points from the publication of *The Bedlington Terrier Club*, an institution of which Mr. T. H. Ainslie is the Honorary Secretary. It consists of about seventy members, and the entrance fee and annual subscription are 5s. each. As I have mentioned, it is mainly supported by fanciers in the north of England, and particularly residents round and about Newcastle, there being barely a dozen living in the south of England.

STANDARD OF POINTS OF THE BEDLINGTON TERRIER

SKULL.—Narrow, but deep and rounded; high at occiput, and covered with a nice silky tuft or top-knot.

JAW.—Long, tapering, sharp, and muscular; as little stop as possible between the eyes, so as to form nearly a line from the nose-end along the jaw front of the skull to the occiput; the lips close-fitting, and no flew.

EYES.—Should be small, and well sunk in the head; the blues should have a dark eye; the blue and tan, ditto, with amber shades; livers, sandies, etc., a light-brown eye.

NOSE.—Large, and well-angled. Blues and blue and tans should have black noses; livers and sandies, flesh-coloured noses.

TEETH.—Level or pincer-jawed.

EARS.—Moderately large, well formed, flat to the cheek, thinly covered and tipped with fine, silky hair; they should be filbert-shaped.

LEGS.—Of moderate length, not wide apart, straight, and square set, and with good feet, which are rather long.

TAIL.—Thick at root, tapering to point; slightly feathered on lower side, 9 to 11 inches long, and scimitar-shaped.

NECK AND SHOULDERS.—Neck should be long, deep at base, rising well from the shoulders, which should be flat.

BODY.—Long and well-proportioned, flat-ribbed and deep, not wide in the chest, slightly arched back, well ribbed up, with light quarters.

COAT.—Hard, with close bottom, and not lying flat to the sides.

COLOUR.—Dark-blue, blue and tan, liver, liver and tan, sandy, sandy and tan.

HEIGHT.—About 15 or 16 inches.

WEIGHT.—Dogs, about 24 lbs.; bitches, about 22 lbs.

GENERAL APPEARANCE.—A light made-up lathy dog, but not shelly.

POINT VALUES—

| | |
|---|---|
| Head | 10 |
| Ears | 10 |
| Nose | 5 |
| Jaw | 5 |
| Eyes | 5 |
| Chest | 10 |
| Neck | 10 |
| Shoulders | 5 |
| Back | 5 |
| Quarters | 5 |
| Legs and feet | 10 |
| Tail | 5 |
| Coat | 10 |
| Colour | 5 |
| Total | 100 |

Mr. Rawdon Lee gives another scale, viz.—Head, skull, jaws, and ears, 20; eyes and nose, 10; legs and feet, 15; neck and shoulders, 5; body, loin, and stern, 15; coat, 15; colour, 10; general appearance, 10—total, 100.

Ch. *Breakwater Girl* has easily secured the majority of votes from my contributors designating the most typical specimen in the breed, and I have selected her for illustration. She was bred, and is owned by, Mrs. P. R. Smith, was born in October 1896, and is by *Beaconsfield Triumph* ex *Breakwater Nell.* She stands 14¾ inches at shoulder, scales 22 lbs, and is a "blue" in colour. Her owner describes her as a dark-blue Bedlington, with dark eyes; strong, punishing jaw; long, lean head; silver top-knot; low-set ears, nicely fringed; good roach back; flat sides; straight front and legs, and cat thighs; tail set on low, well-carried, and 9½ inches in length. *Breakwater Girl* has won twelve championships and over 120 first prizes; she has never been bred from.

## THE DANDIE DINMONT TERRIER

ALTHOUGH the name by which the Dandie Dinmont terrier is known only dates back to 1814, the breed itself is of considerably older origin, and shares its ancestry with the Bedlington terrier. About no breed of dogs is there more conflicting opinion as to genesis than about this. The disputative and contentious ink that has been spilled over its history, could it be collected in one cauldron, would appal. Controversy and theoretical speculation have fought duels without number over its past, and human gore has been shed in heated argument, supervening on irritated excitement. Something of the bitter insularity that hedges the British bulldog-fancier appears to attach to the Dandie Dinmont devotee, as of the priest of a shrine who guards an idol too holy for criticism. The ground is ticklish to tread on, and those who "hae their doots" had better not give voice to them.

But these dangers must not be allowed to deter the conscientious compiler from ventilating the facts or myths he has collected, and so I will apply myself to the task. At the beginning of the eighteenth century there was a breed of rough-haired terriers in existence in the Border country between England and Scotland that was very much appreciated by the small farmers, working folk, gipsies, and generality of the district.

They were game little devils, death on vermin, and particularly useful in destroying foxes and other carnivora which preyed on lambs and poultry, yet were, by reason of the ruggedness of the land, difficult to come at and kill with hounds hunting in packs. And the people of those parts being right good sportsmen, these sterling little terriers appealed to them, and built up for themselves a local reputation.

In my previous article on the Bedlington terrier, I quoted an ancestry connecting it with certain terriers owned by "Piper Allan," an itinerant gipsy musician who made his livelihood by displaying his skill with the bagpipes in his wanderings through the Border countries. My authority was an article on Bedlingtons written by Mr. W. Alcock, a former Honorary Secretary of the Bedlington Terrier Club. To this same "Piper Allan" source is traced the ancestry of the Dandie Dinmont; and Mr. Charles Cook, the author of a very careful monograph on the breed, published in 1885, supplies some circumstantial details which tally with Mr. Alcock's, and yet show the usual proportion of divergence which every student in the minor by-ways of social and local history is too accustomed to be confronted with in his researches to entertain any surprise at.

It would appear from Mr. Cook's monograph that the Allans of Holystone were a well-known family, one of whose forbears was William Allan, born in 1704, and a noted Nimrod of such small game as otters and foxes. To him, of a gipsy wife, were born six children, whereof James, afterwards known as the Piper, was the youngest, and made his appearance in 1734. To Piper Allan descended the kennel of rough-haired terriers whose skill in the chase had made his father famous in his way, and prospering in James's hands they came to

be known as the "Piper Allan breed," and are thus alluded to in classic literature, in whose pages Allan found a niche. The Piper lived in Coquetdale, whose beauties have been sung by poets, as Dalziel reminds us, for he quotes—

> The Coquet for ever, the Coquet for aye,
> The Coquet the king o' the stream and the brae;
> Frae Harden's green hill tae Warkworth sae gray,
> The Coquet for ever, the Coquet for aye!

Here and roundabout Piper Allan beat his bounds with his music and his dogs. And great was the reputation of the latter, so great that many offers came to purchase them—offers which only a true dog-lover could have resisted. Thus it is said the Earl of Northumberland—by which title we can fix the date between 1749 and 1766—offered the piper a farm in exchange for one of his terriers, only to meet with a proud rejection; and on another occasion, when he was asked to name his own price for a terrier named Charlie, that had distinguished itself in killing otter on the estate of Lord Ravensworth, Allan's answer was, "The whole estate wadnae buy Charlie!" To these famous terriers Mr. Cook traces the Dandie Dinmont.

And if Mr. Alcock does the same for the Bedlington there is nothing incompatible with accuracy in the two asseverations. Mr. Rawdon Lee considers Dandie Dinmont and Bedlington to be first cousins, and Dalziel holds that they are closely related, and common observation and comparison confirm both opinions. For, as in the Dandie Dinmont, so in the Bedlington, the colours are the same or similar—pepper or blue of all shades, and mustard or liver or sandy, also of all shades; in both breeds we have the silky top-knot of hair, lighter than the body colour; the pendulous, fringed ears, almond or filbert shaped; and the same

reputation for indomitable courage. Moreover, they both come from within call of the district which Piper Allan tramped. And if in physical shape and type they have gone their different ways, and one selected a Scottish and the other an English domicile, they have clearly retained certain characteristics which they alone share in all the terrier family, and point to a common origin.

But whilst the Bedlington remained in provincial obscurity, its cousin over the Border leaped into fame what time the Wizard of the North touched it with his fairy pen. When Sir Walter Scott published *Guy Mannering* in 1814, and created the character of Dandie Dinmont of Charlieshope, and dowered him with Auld Pepper and Young Pepper and Little Pepper, and Auld Mustard and Young Mustard and Little Mustard, and described them in that oft-quoted passage which tells how they were "regularly entered, first wi' rattens, then wi' stots or weasels, and then wi' tods and brocks" (by which you may understand rats, stoats, foxes, and badgers), "they fear naething that ever cam' wi' a hairy skin on't!" the dog was immortalised. It awoke to find itself famous, to achieve a world-wide notoriety, and a perennial sentimental popularity such as no race of terriers—not even Parson Russell's—has ever been able to acquire. As long as English literature shall live, so long shall those Peppers and Mustards find a niche in it. And for Dandie Dinmont, their master in fiction, the genius of the master-fictionist so far triumphed over fact that one, James Anderson of Hyndlee in Roxburghshire, with whom Sir Walter was not even acquainted when he created what was only meant to be a typical character, was found to so exactly fit the description that his neighbours with one accord, and taking no denial,

decided that Anderson was the man, and dubbed him by the name of Dandie Dinmont.

The curious coincidence remains that Anderson was, in fact, the owner of a fine lot of terriers, twenty or thereabouts at times, whose names were confined to "Pepper" and "Mustard." And since in ingorance of this Sir Walter accepted those names, it is not unreasonable to suppose that the *Peachems* and *Pinchers* and *Pipers* of the south of the Border merged into *Peppers* and *Mustards* north of it, and it is even possible "Pepper" may have been a corruption of "Piper." There is certainly a suggestion of dry Scotch humour in the nomenclature, which entertained itself by invention what time the conservative Northumbrian yeomen contented themselves with the names that had first been attached to the fliers of the breed by their founder Allan.

James Davidson died in 1820, and twenty years were to elapse before any special steps were taken to perpetuate the breed of terriers which Scott had immortalised. Two decades form a big gap in canine chronology and continuity if skipped over. But about the year 1840 Mr. E. Bradshaw Smith, of Blackwood, Ecclefechan, applied himself to the task of collecting and establishing the strain, and, Mr. Cook says, "would have had no difficulty in obtaining pure descendants of the original Peppers and Mustards to form the foundations of his kennels." Certain it is he spared no expense, and it is recorded that in one negotiation, which proved futile, he offered to "cover with five pound notes" a certain bitch he was very anxious to obtain. For forty years Mr. Smith fostered and perpetuated the variety, breeding many a good dog, the "incomparable Dirk Hatteraick" for one, and all Dandie Dinmont fanciers owe him a heavy debt of gratitude

for preserving the type in its purity; for Mr. Cook, after studying the records of the Blackwood kennels carefully, came to the conclusion that the terriers of modern days are much nearer to absolute purity of descent than he was at one time disposed to admit. Unfortunately in-breeding for the perpetuation of type found its colophon here, as in many other cases, in "delicate, weedy, and generally unsatisfactory specimens."

One great point of divergence between the Dandie Dinmont and the Bedlington (granted their common ancestry) is in their height and shape. The former should range from 8 to 11 inches at the shoulder, the latter from 15 to 16. The one is a low, singularly long-bodied dog, the other a fairly compact and occasionally leggy one. In short the Scotch descendant of Piper Allan's strain favours the Skye and Scottish terriers in formation of body, whilst the English variety is more on the lines of our English terrier tribe in its proportions. Mr. Cook suggests an explanation for the conformation of the Dandie Dinmont in the theory that the gipsies who formerly migrated to England from the Continent introduced with them certain foreign terriers of the dachshund type, and that this out-cross appears in the Dandie Dinmont, and accounts for its crooked legs. But this seems rather far-fetched; for crooked-legged, rough-haired terriers were not wanting in England, and for the long body and short legs do not the Skye and the Scottie suffice—as probability suggests they might have done? And if not, the Turnspit, a common enough dog a hundred years ago, was a nearer neighbour than the dachshund. But a better argument that Dandie Dinmonts were not necessarily long-bodied and crooked-legged is supplied by Landseer's portrait of

Sir Walter Scott, in which is depicted a mustard Dandie Dinmont that was bred at Abbotsford—a dog longer in the leg and shorter in the body than the modern type. An otterhound out-cross in the family pedigree has also been suggested for the Dandie Dinmont, but whilst this seems a reasonable theory in the case of the Bedlington, it is difficult to reconcile any trace of it with the contour of the former breed. Regarding the two terriers, with their several common characteristics, their reputed common origin, and their common habitation on the Border, the assimilation of the Dandie Dinmont, on the one side of the Border, to the Scottish type of terrier body-conformation, and the assimilation of the Bedlington on the other side of the Border to the English type, presents an interesting subject for speculation, to my mind, and yet not so interesting or practical as to inflict it on my readers.

The Dandie Dinmont was amongst the earliest dogs to appear on the show-bench, and made his first public appearance at Manchester in 1861. But in the early years of his exhibition the classes were badly filled, not only in quantity but in quality; for on one occasion a third prize was considered commensurate to the deserts of the best dog, and on another, as late as 1867, all the prizes were withheld on account of the inferiority of the exhibits, much to the indignation of their owners. After this matters mended, and in the 'Seventies classes were well filled, on one occasion eighty-five dogs facing the judges. By this time the breed had apparently increased in weight a good deal, for a terrier weighing 27½ lbs. divided the honours with a 20-lb. dog. In the modern Standard of Points of the breed the limit of weight ranges between 14 and 24 lbs., 18 lbs. being the mean recommended. Fifteen years ago the dogs enumerated in Dalziel's article on

the breed weighed between 17 and 24 lbs. The question of the proper size and weight for the dog still continues to divide fanciers. And whilst on the subject of early shows there is one interesting side-light I must not omit to mention. At the Crystal Palace Show in 1872 the first prize was carried off by a dog, belonging to a Mr. Robert Scott of Jedburgh, who bore the historic name of *Peachem*. Mr. Rawdon Lee writes of this dog: "*Peachem* was to my idea an ideal of his race—not too big, not too little, good in coat, colour, and top-knot, nicely domed in skull, shapely, well-arched in body, and not too crooked in front." It was a curious reversion to ancient associations that the owners of this dog, Robert and Paul Scott, tramped their district as pedlars or hawkers, and were well-known for the excellent strain of terriers they possessed. Thus after the lapse of a century we have a *Peachem*, owned by an itinerant fancier, winning the highest honours in the metropolis of the kingdom, even as a *Peachem*, owned by a wandering minstrel, won for itself historic fame in the wilds of the Border country a hundred years previously. There was a righteous compensation in that win which seems in harmony with the romance of the breed. If so be, I have got the right history by the handle!

And now for the modern dog, and a few notes and criticisms about it from modern fanciers. There appears to be no doubt that the breed has reached a high pitch of popularity; the entries at the last three Kennel Club Shows averaged ninety-four, and at Edinburgh in 1903 they were within an ace of a hundred. Both breeders and exhibitors have increased considerably in the last ten years, and the demand for specimens of the breed is stated to be in excess of the supply. It is also affirmed that the pepper variety is

more popular than the mustard. The divergence of opinion as to the best size and weight is still provocative of argument; those who favour the heavier dogs assert that the smaller specimens of to-day are light in bone and substance and weak in jaw, and for this reason do not deserve recognition at the hands of the judges; those who favour the lighter variety ask how the heavy ones could ever follow a fox underground, and argue that a dog should be judged by its ability to follow its hereditary pursuits; whilst a third party declares there is room for both sections, and both are wanted. And one of the best authorities is of opinion that the desideratum to be maintained does not lie so much in size as in "the dark eye—*hazel* not *black*, as some are prone to describe it, the wide domed skull, covered with light silky hair, but not of too great length or too profuse, else we have too much hair in front of the eyes and are troubled with the trimming question. I am convinced the only cure for the much-discussed trimming difficulty, so far as Dandie Dinmonts are concerned, is to breed them with not too soft coats and top-knots, nor too profuse, when the necessity or desire to trim them at all will diminish to vanishing point. And let breeders see that the well-arched body—long, but not too long—is perpetuated, and that the Dandie has fairly straight, perfectly sound legs and feet to travel upon. Then we shall find that, in spite of the constant changes of fashion in breeds of dogs, the Dandie Dinmont will still maintain his popularity by virtue of his inherent worth."

Turning now to the type of the Dandie Dinmont terrier as he exists to-day, Mr. E. W. H. Blagg, the well-known judge of the breed, remarks on the considerable diversity of types shown on the bench, though many of them are correct. But he holds that there

TERRIERS (1803). *After Reinagle.*

and points out that the type of this breed of terriers has changed less in the course of time than any other variety. They were always distinguished for their gameness, being in olden times, as now, slow to anger; but when once roused they will fight till all is blue! The peppers should be of a nice medium shade of grey, and the mustards of a nice orange colour. Fluffy, pale-coloured dogs are very objectionable. Above all things they should have round, bright, wide-set eyes of rich dark hazel. There are far too many light-coloured eyes in the breed. The best weights, in my opinion, are not over 24 lbs. for dogs, and from 19 to 20 lbs. for bitches. Within the last few years the breed has improved very much with regard to soundness. Formerly it was comparatively easy for a dog with crippled fore legs to attain championship honours, but to-day the case is quite different. Some few years ago the breed passed under a cloud, but since that time it has been making steady progress, and has the benefit of being supported by several specialist clubs.

Mrs. Spencer gives her description of an "ideal" Dandie Dinmont as follows:—The first impression received in looking at a Dandie Dinmont is that his head is too large for his body, the size of it being enhanced by a top-knot of white, silky hair which covers the whole of a well-domed skull, and is the glory of the Dandie. He should have a long, strong body, gently arched, and a nice finish is added to it by the scimitar-like curve of the tail. His legs are short and stout, and well apart, so that in the event of opposition it is almost impossible to knock him over. He is the only terrier who should possess a domed skull, and this, together with his dark and lustrous eyes, lend to him the appearance of dignity and courage, which qualities are so eminently his. His coat should be fairly shaggy, but not woolly, and in the case of a pepper of a nice medium shade of iron-grey. If a mustard the richer the colour the better. It is to be deplored that there are so many Dandies winning prizes with small yellow eyes, thus lacking the true expression of the breed. The domed skull, also, is often absent. These, in my opinion, are two of the worst faults a Dandie can labour under.

MR. W. GOODALL COPESTAKE (the Honorary Secretary of the Dandie Dinmont Club) is satisfied with the type of the breed as it exists to-day, and does not consider it requires improvement.

Naturally enough in a breed about and around which so much sentiment has trailed its tendrils, the recommendations of the Dandie Dinmont coruscate.

"I prefer it to all others for its all-round sporting and domestic qualifications," writes Mrs. Spencer. "Where is there a more game or resolute exterminator of vermin, or a more charming and faithful companion? Possessing perfect house-manners, kindly to all, especially children, he only gives his devoted love to one, to whom he is a splendid guard. A Dandie has, as a rule, many quaint and charming idiosyncrasies, and a strong sense of humour, combined with an almost human intelligence." Mr. Blegg writes, "I consider the unique attraction of the Dandie to lie in its quaint appearance, its handsome head, and its beautiful eyes; also its great gameness and intelligence. But, as in all breeds, some are far more intelligent than others." "One of the very best sporting terriers" is Mr. Goodall Copestake's dictum. "A Dandie will face anything. He is also a good house-dog, but rather jealous. Scott, probably the greatest dog-lover amongst our novelists, has set the true hall-mark on his character. He remains to-day the dog that Scott depicted."

### STANDARD OF POINTS OF THE DANDIE DINMONT TERRIER

HEAD.—Strongly made and large, not out of proportion to the dog's size; the muscles showing extraordinary development, more especially the maxillary. *Skull* broad between the ears, getting gradually less towards the eyes, and measuring about the same from the inner corner of the eye to back of skull as it does from ear to ear. The forehead well domed. The head is covered with very soft, silky hair, which should not be confined to a mere top-knot, and the lighter in colour and the silkier it is, the better. The *cheeks*, starting from the ears proportionately with the skull, have a gradual taper towards the muzzle, which is deep and strongly made, and measures about 3 inches in length, or, in proportion to skull, as three is to five. The *muzzle* is covered with hair of a little darker shade than the top-knot, and of the same texture as the feather of the fore legs. The top of the muzzle is generally bare for about an inch from the back part of the nose, the bareness coming to a point towards the eye, and being about one inch broad at the nose. The *nose* and inside of the *mouth* black or dark-coloured. The *teeth* very strong, especially the canine, which are of extraordinary size for such a small dog. The canines fit well into each other, so as to give the greatest available holding and

punishing power, and the teeth are level in front; the upper ones very slightly overlapping the under ones. (Many of the finest specimens have a "swine-mouth," which is very objectionable; but it is not so great an objection as the protrusion of the under jaw.)

EYES.—Set wide apart, large, full, round, bright, expressive of great determination, intelligence, and dignity; set low and prominent in front of the head; colour, a rich, dark hazel.

EARS.—Pendulous, set well back, wide apart, and low on the skull, hanging close to the cheek, with a very slight protection at the base, broad at the junction of the head and tapering almost to a point, the fore part of the ear tapering very little—the tapering being mostly on the back part, the fore part of the ear coming almost straight down from its junction with the head to the tip. They should harmonise in colour with the body colour. In the case of a pepper dog they are covered with a soft, straight, brownish hair, in some cases almost black. In the case of a mustard dog the hair should be mustard in colour, a shade darker than the body, but not black. All should have a thin feather of light hair starting about 2 inches from the tip, and of nearly the same colour and texture as the top-knot, which gives the ear the appearance of a *distinct point*. The animal is often one or two years old before the feather is shown. The cartilage and skin of the ear should not be thick, but rather thin. Length of ear from 3 to 4 inches.

NECK.—Very muscular and well developed, showing great power of resistance, being well set into the shoulders.

BODY.—Long, strong, and flexible; ribs well sprung and round; chest well developed and let well down between the fore legs; the back rather low at the shoulder, having a slight downward curve, and a corresponding arch over the loins, with a very slight, gradual drop from top of loins to root of tail. Both sides of backbone well supplied with muscle.

TAIL.—Rather short, say from 8 inches to 10 inches, and covered on the upper side with wiry hair of darker colour than that of the body; the hair on the under side being lighter in colour, and not so wiry; with a nice feather about 2 inches long, getting shorter as it nears the tip. Rather thick at the root, getting thicker for about 4 inches, then tapering off to a point. It should not be twisted or curled in any way, but should come up with a curve like a scimitar, the tip, when excited, being in a perpendicular line with the root of the tail. It should neither be set on too high nor too low. When not excited it is carried gaily, and a little above the level of the body.

LEGS.—The fore legs short, with immense muscular development and bone; legs wide apart, the chest coming well down between them. The feet well formed *and not flat*, with very strong brown or dark-coloured claws. Bandy legs and flat feet are objectionable. The hair on the fore legs and feet of a pepper dog should be tan, varying, according to the body colour, from a rich tan to a pale fawn; of a mustard dog they are of a darker shade than its head, which is a creamy white. In both colours there is a nice feather, about 2 inches long, rather lighter in colour than the hair on the fore part of the legs. The hind legs are a little longer than the fore ones, and are set rather wide apart, but not spread out in an unnatural manner, while the feet are much smaller. The thighs are well

developed, and the hair of the same colour and texture as the fore ones, but having no feather or dew claws. The whole claws should be dark; but the claws of all vary in shade according to the colour of the dog's body.

COAT.—This is very important. The hair should be about 2 inches long; that from the skull to root of tail a mixture of hardish and soft hair, which should give a sort of crisp feel to the hand. The hard should not be wiry. The coat is what is termed pily or pencilled. The hair on the under part of the body is lighter in colour and softer than on the top. The skin on the belly accords with the colour of the dog.

COLOUR.—The colour is pepper or mustard. The pepper ranges from dark, bluish black to a light silvery grey, the intermediate shades being preferred; the body colour coming well down the shoulder and hips, merging into the leg colour. The mustards vary from a reddish brown to a pale fawn, the head being a creamy white, the legs and feet of a shade darker than the head. The claws are dark, as in other colours. (Nearly all Dandie Dinmonts have some white on the chest, and some have also white claws.)

SIZE.—The height should be from 8 to 11 inches at the top of the shoulder. Length from top of shoulder to root of tail should not be more than twice the dog's height, but, preferably, 1 or 2 inches less.

WEIGHT.—From 14 to 24 lbs.; the best weight as near 18 lbs. as possible. These weights are for dogs in good working order.

POINT VALUES—

| | |
|---|---|
| Head | 10 |
| Eyes | 10 |
| Ears | 10 |
| Neck | 5 |
| Body | 20 |
| Tail | 5 |
| Legs and feet | 10 |
| Coat | 15 |
| Colour | 5 |
| Size and weight | 5 |
| General appearance | 5 |
| Total | 100 |

There are four specialist clubs consecrate to the cult of the Dandie Dinmont—namely, the *Dandie Dinmont Terrier Club*, whose Honorary Secretary is Mr. Goodall Copestake, with a membership of nearly eighty, and an annual subscription of half a guinea. The *Dandie Dinmont and Scottish Terrier Club of Ireland*, with a membership of about forty, and an annual subscription of half a guinea, is under the Honorary

Secretaryship of Mr. Ashmur Bond. There are also the *Dandie Dinmont Terrier Society*, and the *Dumfries and District Dandie Dinmont Terrier Club.* The first-named of these four institutions is well off in the matter of challenge plate, possessing no less than twelve trophies, whilst the Irish Club has a couple. In the former there is also an open produce stakes for Dandie Dinmont terrier-brood bitches and their produce, which is calculated to encourage the breed.

The votes that I have received for the most typical dogs and bitches in the breed contain the names of Ch. *Braw Lad*, Ch. *Puff*, Ch. *Caigan Duke*, Ch. *Bonnie Lassie*, and Ch. *Ashleigh Gyp*, and I have selected the first mentioned for illustration.

Ch. *Braw Lad* was bred and is owned by Mrs. Spencer. Born in July 1900, his sire was Ch. *Puff* and his dam *Orange Blossom.* His height is 10 inches, he weighs 22½ lbs., and is a pepper dog. Mrs. Spencer describes him as "with a coat of beautiful colour and texture; immense bone and muscular development; standing on sound legs and feet. He has the true dark eye and domed skull peculiar to this breed, besides being full of quality, with good ear and tail carriage. Add to this that he is a dog of remarkable gameness. It is difficult to find fault with him, but to be severely critical I think an inch added to the length of his body would improve him." *Braw Lad* has won five championships under five different judges, and twenty-two firsts, and numerous challenge cups, specials, etc. He is the sire of some grand puppies, but they are too young to have been exhibited at the time of writing.

*H. Dixon & Sons, photo.*

FOX TERRIER

*Ch.* DONNA FORTUNA.

*T. Fall, photo.*

WIRE-HAIRED FOX TERRIER.

*Ch.* DUSKY REINE.

PLATE XXXIII.

## THE FOX TERRIER (SMOOTH)

IF a vote could be taken as to which is the cockiest, cleanest, smartest, neatest, and most engaging of all the terrier tribe, the election would certainly devolve on the fox terrier, for there can be no manner of doubt but that he is the most popular dog in the country. He supports a journal of his own; monopolises a stud book; is the subject of more than one monograph; the idol of a vast number of specialist clubs; and his entries at our leading dog shows are as five to one in comparison with the entries of other terrier breeds. Thus, to take the latest example that presents itself to me, at the Kennel Club's Show at the Crystal Palace in 1903 the terrier entries ran as follows:—Bedlingtons, 7; Welsh, 40; Airedale, 53; Scottish, 55; Irish, 67; Skye, 73; Dandie Dinmont, 91; and fox terriers, 277! And although this ratio may not be sustained in more northern latitudes, analyse where you will and you shall find the subject of this sketch *facile princeps*.

There are two varieties of fox terriers—the smooth and the wire-haired, but the former is the one that looms largest, and is most generally referred to by the unprefixed name. The fox terrier, as he is accepted to-day, is of comparatively modern creation—that is to say, he stepped forth under his present colours from

the chaos of terrierdom about the 'Fifties. Idolaters of the breed will tell you that he existed a hundred, two hundred, even three hundred years ago. So he did; so did all dogs in the germ, for they are begotten, not created, though we have come to use the latter word in a particular sense as indicating that a breed of dogs may be so craftily begotten as to be practically original in its developed type. But you cannot claim for the fox terrier the same distinctiveness of type in those "mists-of-obscurity" days as you can for such breeds as the mastiff, the collie, the toy spaniel, the Italian greyhound, and the Maltese dog. In the first place, there is no possible manner of doubt but that the terriers of a hundred years ago were a "scratch" lot; you have only to assure yourself of the fact by peeping into old books, or glancing at old pictures or engravings. The historian, in fact, treats them most cavalierly; confines the eighteen modern varieties into which the clan has branched into two groups—the smooth and the broken-haired, and dismisses them with a cold disdain of detail. Even Reinagle illumines us less than was his usual wont in his matchless pictures, as you may see by the outline sketch of his trio of terriers which I am able to give. A second group of three terriers, depicted a few pages farther on, indicates the fashions of 1843, whilst in a book published in 1862—a "modern" supplement to Cuvier's *Animal Kingdom*—occurs the following description of the tribe:—

The *Terrier*.—Two distinct varieties are used for the purpose of entering the burrows of foxes, badgers, etc. The first is generally black on the back, sides, head, and tail; but his belly, neck, paws, and tip of tail a bright or reddish brown, with a spot of the like colour over each eye. The hair is short; the tail is carried slightly curved upwards; the ears are short and erect; and the snout is moderately elongated. Though small, it is a very resolute dog, and a determined enemy of rats, rabbits, and

TERRIERS (1803). *After Reinagle.*

many other animals, in pursuit of which it evinces an extraordinary and untaught alacrity. Some of them will draw a badger from his hole. The other species of terrier alluded to is of a dirty white colour, except about the eyes and ears, which are brown. It stands higher before than behind; has the muzzle more truncated than the other, and beset with stiff bristles; the hair, all over, is rather long and curly, and the ears are partly erect and partly pendulous. This is, perhaps, in general more powerful than the other. It is equally courageous, and quite as fitted for the purposes from which they both take their name. It is sometimes called the Scotch terrier.

The modern fox terrier is a white dog, with certain recognised markings on the head and ears, and possibly a spot on the body; but if you could by any hanky-panky colour one black and tan, it would take a very skilled and bold expert to say, "This is a fox terrier." And yet the terrier of the old days, used for bolting foxes, was nearly always a black and tan or a dark-coloured dog. During the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries such terriers were kept, chiefly by the lower classes—grooms, stablemen, huntsmen, *et hoc genus*, to assist in their work, and at that period were far more commonly used in the hunting-field and for their understood duties than ever since. They were *de facto* "fox terriers"; they often ran with the hounds, and the longest chase found them in at the death, or, what was more to the point, present when their assistance was required to angle a fox when it had gone to ground. At the beginning of the nineteenth century they arrived at the dignity of their present nomenclature, and drew away from the ruck of their cousins. Attention was bestowed on their breeding, and you read in 1803 of their having become so exceedingly fashionable that five guineas was considered no great price to pay for a handsome and well-bred specimen—a clear indication that they were being bred to type at the time when they were given their distinctive name. Notwith-

standing those dogs were, in the majority of cases, black and tan or brown.

At the same time white terriers were to be found, for we have evidence of them in one or two rare old pictures and engravings, and it is not impossible that they were a distinct strain, fostered and kept pure in select hunting stables, as we know other breeds have been. It is certain the Duke of Beaufort had such a strain, but equally certain they were black and tan in colour. But if black and tan, which was then the orthodox colour, was fostered by one sportsman, there is no reason, and, indeed, a great likelihood, that other varieties, and amongst them white, might have been fostered in other kennels. But whilst we have ocular proof that white fox-terriers did exist, Mr. Rawdon Lee—than whom there is no greater student of and authority on the breed—does not ascribe to them the complete change that crept over the complexion of the breed, and revolutionised it within the cycle of fifty years. He rather considers that "the modern fashionable dog was a later production, brought about by judicious crossing with terriers of different kinds, and not without a slight taint of beagle or hound in their blood." One could have wished that the "terriers of other kinds" were more specifically distinguished, for they, as well as the fox terrier, must have struggled forth into individuality of colour from the dark chaos of the tribe as we know it existed in the eighteenth century. Of our eighteen varieties of modern terriers, there are only three which are white in their colouring —the fox, the bull, and the white English terrier. The latter is supposed to have been derived from a cross of the two former, with a dash of the whippet; the bull terrier was often a coloured dog, sometimes black and tan. And so the mystery of the fox terrier's conversion

from black to white remains as great as ever, unless peradventure the change can be traced to the beagle or hound cross.

The vogue of the fox terrier began with dog shows, and he jumped into popularity in the 'Sixties, and has never looked back since. It was in that decade that he first attracted the fancier's attention, to whom the twentieth century dog owes it development, and who, it may be said without any disrespect, has undoubtedly improved on the work of Nature by bringing human taste, modern intelligence, singular perseverance, and an admirable devotion to bear on the task of selecting, propagating, and perfecting the fittest. And so, *pace* the domineering Dalziel, with his contemptuous "Pho! Fanciers never reason, they assert"; *pace* the folios that have been written to try and prove, metaphorically as well as literally, that black is white; *pace* all and every who would have us believe that the fox terrier of to-day is in direct descent from an ancient and aristocratic ancestry,—I am forced to the opinion that the most deservedly popular dog of modern times is practically a modern product, and that this cocky little chap we all love has only the same affinity to the black burden of his past as, say, the modern Bond Street beauty to the Anglo-Saxon maidens who smoothed their tousled locks and contemplated their hardy features in the mirror of the river's rim, and went a-fishing in coracles on the quiet reaches of the Thames in the Henley direction.

And so, without stopping to be tedious by repeating the too-oft-told tale of the pedigreeless *Jock*, *Trap*, and *Tartar*, who are the Shem, Ham, and Japhet of modern fox terrierdom, the veritable pillars on which the splendid superstructure of the developed breed rests, I will proceed to the much more interesting matter

that has been placed at my disposal by my many courteous and kind contributors.

Every one with the most superficial eye for a dog knows what a fox terrier is like, and if breathes there a reader who is not quite certain, I must refer him to the Standard of Points at the end of this article, where he shall have it described in minutest detail. But for those not in that elementary stage of dog-fancying, the following brief description of an "ideal" dog, contributed by H.G. the Duchess of Newcastle, a leading judge and breeder of the variety, affords an admirable text on which to hang the criticisms of the cognoscenti in dealing with the practical type of dog as it exists to-day :—

THE DUCHESS OF NEWCASTLE'S IDEAL FOX TERRIER.—A perfect fox terrier, whether he be wire or smooth, should to my mind be made like a weight-carrying polo pony. We want the game look, the blood head, neck, and shoulders, the spring of the ribs, short back, strong hindquarters, hocks in the right place, and the compact, active look in the terrier just as much as in the pony; but we also want the legs and feet of the foxhound. I cannot stand the long-legged, snipey-faced, soft-expressioned, flat-sided specimens sometimes seen figuring as prize-winners. They have done the breed of show terriers a lot of harm; for the ordinary individual going round the benches of some show for the first time does not keep in his mind's eye the beautiful terriers he sees, but these monstrosities, and says, "I don't want a brute like that!" I am strongly in favour of limiting the height and not the weight; for although this would tend to thicken the shoulder, still those who are faulty in this respect would get knocked out by the judge. I know, of course, with the smaller terrier it is difficult to get the length of head, also neck and shoulder properties. Still, in many cases these are to be found, though at first sight not so apparent, owing to the shorter and cobbier appearance.

With this pen-picture in view, I will proceed to set out in full the criticisms and notes that have reached me from experts in the breed.

THE DUCHESS OF NEWCASTLE.—I am satisfied with the type, but I should like to see all a bit lower on the leg; also hindquarters want looking to. A good many winners are softer in expression and larger in eye than I like for what should be a really good little workman. I think as regards weight, by limiting it we shall lose bone and general substance. I should prefer, instead of saying "under so many pounds," to substitute "under so many inches." We should then get small cloddy ones, with the bone a terrier ought to possess. With regard to the point values, I should not like to take off from the points given for either head, neck, eyes, feet, and shoulders; still I think 5 points too few for hindquarters, and it strikes me that so few points being given for this very important point has caused the neglect which has done so much harm, resulting in many otherwise perfect specimens becoming practically cripples.

LADY EDITH VILLIERS.—There has been a great improvement in type the last year or two. At one time they were inclined to get too much on the leg, and be too big altogether, and with the wrong expression. Great attention should be paid to correcting the faulty hindquarters. It is often said that the show fox terrier is no workman. This is of course the case when they are not entered. So many terriers hardly leave their kennels except for the show-bench, and are not able to look out for themselves like those running about all day. One of my prize terriers, bred by Mr. M'Null, was very game; she ran all last season with the Pytchley, and bolted many foxes. Another dog I had of Mr. Vicary's, by Ch. *Venio*, would go to ground anywhere, and without any noise seize a fox or badger, and stay with it till dug out. To my mind, an "ideal" smooth fox terrier should be in make and shape exactly similar to a good hunter—good length of neck, sloping shoulders, short back (this is a point I should be very particular about), strong quarters, with hocks well let down; and it is here that so many of the present-day terriers fail—also in coat, nearly all the smooths being soft and too long. I think nearly all the good coated ones have come from the late Mr. Burbridge's famous Hunton strain. A good fox terrier's head cannot be too long, provided it is not snipey; and he should stand on short legs, with bone well let down. This is my idea of what a good fox terrier should be, and, in addition, capable of doing anything required of him from bolting a fox—which, after all, his name implies as his legitimate *métier*—to being an ideal companion for either a man or woman. He is always ready for anything, and can be either grave or gay, as the occasion requires.

MR. J. C. TINNÉ.—There is not only *one* type. Better if there was! But judges must take things as they are, and to hold one's judgment to one type, excluding all others, is manifestly unfair; because to do so might result in placing inferior terriers over superior, merely on the ground that the latter were of different type to the former. With regard to point values, it would be difficult to alter the present scale. Perhaps it is the case that too much is given to stern, and too little to hindquarters, expression, and action. The point of size is one in which latitude may be allowed, always provided extremes are avoided. Too small means a toy; too large means inability to go to ground. With two terriers equal in other points, the smaller ought to win, of course. But many people, who don't know, are apt to condemn a terrier as too large, when, as a matter of fact, such a terrier can and does go to earth. Fox earths in various parts of England are not all of the same size.

MR. ROBERT VICARY.—The chief point to be borne in mind now is that of type. In the fashionable craze for bone and feet of foxhound pattern a considerable danger of loss of fox terrier type is probable. Already very few really good heads are to be noticed; the bone in the legs has been developed in the head. Bone is necessary, but should not be overdone; hunters not cart-horses are what we want; an ounce of blood is worth a pound of bone. A fox is not overdone with bone, and the terrier merely requires a sufficiency of good quality bone. And as regards feet I never knew a fox terrier to give way in his feet from work; so criticisms on feet are mostly hypercritical, and mere fanciers' points as compared with the sportsman's. There is no better foot for work than with a moderate length of toe, and of moderate size as compared with a small foot. Neither in man, horse, nor terrier is the extremely small neat foot necessary for athletic prowess, a great drawback in a horse, and no catch at all for a terrier. The small-footed ones are usually a bit off on their knees. There is no breed of dogs which combines substance and quality to such a high degree as a fox terrier, save, on a larger scale, the foxhound. Every point in a fox terrier is straight and beautiful; other breeds are admired for their monstrosities. If the true fox terrier type is adhered to, the intelligence, pluck, beauty, and jolliness of this breed will always command a big majority over any other save the foxhound.

MR. FRANCIS REDMOND.—I am quite satisfied with type. It is the same type that our oldest and most enthusiastic breeders have for twenty-five years been breeding to, and it would to-day be

difficult to improve upon our best specimens, except in point of size. The dogs, more particularly, should be smaller. I fully agree with the values of the points in the Standard of Points, but consider that judges, generally, should value a good little one more highly than a good big one; they can get to ground better, and, when there, work much faster and better than a big one. The fox terrier is one of the most handsome and symmetrical dogs of all time, and it is this perfect symmetry and balance that makes him one of the most active and untiring of all dogs. A foxhound is, possibly, the most symmetrical of all animals; the fox terrier is built on much the same lines, showing a shade more quality. And there is great cause for satisfaction in the reflection that a smooth fox terrier requires no excessive care, faking, or trimming for exhibition. The pluck and workmanlike qualities of the modern fox terrier are sometimes called into question, and compared unfavourably with those of dogs of the past. I would state most emphatically that I consider the fox terrier of to-day as game and hard as any breed of terrier that ever existed. This is expressing a great deal, but I am speaking from an experience of over twenty-five years, having used them at all work a terrier is bred for. Naturally there are exceptions in every breed, and much depends on the way terriers are entered to work. Like horses, many a good one is spoiled in the breaking. I have known show fox-terriers go to ground, and mark fox and badger in the gamest way possible; and more than one have I known meet his death at his work, when, after hours of digging through the night, by the aid of lanterns and candles, the diggers, in the early dawn, have come across an old favourite cheek by jowl with his prey—but, alas, both terrier and badger were dead. One I remember in particular, who thus met his death,—a well-known show-bench specimen. I have also had a recent instance of a well-known prize-winner, who, after nearly six years of exhibition life, being $6\frac{1}{2}$ years old, was sent to a keeper to be broken to ferrets, and within two weeks was perfect at his new occupation, and is now one of the keenest and gamest workers I have ever had, or want to have. A son of this bitch, bred on both sides from show-bench champions, is so keen and hard that our huntsman (William Wells, of the Hertfordshire) writes me, "He is too hard bitten to trust to ground. I would like a milder one, that would go to ground in safety."

MR. W. S. GLYNN.—I am not satisfied with type, especially with regard to dogs. As a rule most of the prize-winners in dogs are much too big.

MR. J. A. DOYLE.—On the whole I am satisfied with type. Some are oversized, but not so many as formerly. A good many are rather weak in hindquarters, and coats want improvement. I wish to express my entire dissent from the view that the type of fox terrier has changed. I am quite sure that if any of the great winners of former days—I mean the dogs who won under competent and trustworthy judges, such as Mr. FitzWilliam, Mr. Bonett, or Mr. Scott—could be exhibited, they would win now; and in the same way any of the above-named judges would fully recognise the merits of the crack dogs of to-day.

MR. J. H. WRIGHT.—A definite size should be arrived at. The fox terriers of to-day are well nigh perfect as regards head properties, body, bone, and quality, but still of various sizes. A meeting of our noted breeders and exhibitors should be convened, and the definite height at shoulder fixed. All judges should penalise terriers above the height agreed upon. In point values I would certainly create a good value for correct size.

CAPT. C. J. WILKIE.—The majority of even our best dogs are too big and leggy, and many are weak in hindquarters. The desire to obtain long-headed dogs, and the exaggerated importance so many judges appear to attach to the heads would seen to be responsible for this state of things. Coats also require more attention; a short, hard, close jacket is what is wanted. The keen, restless, dare-devil expression of a true terrier is too seldom seen. The point values are about right, but judges do not heed them, it would appear. How often one sees a dog excelling in all but head go down before a dog whose only merit is in his wonderful head and ears. Such being the case in practice, I should myself be inclined to reduce the points for "head and ears" and add them to those for hindquarters.

MR. LINDLEY GILL is satisfied with type, if the dogs are kept on the small side; but would like better feet and legs. MR. MONYPENNY thinks a little more attention should be paid to the hind action, as there is a tendency to the cow-hock. MR. FRANK HILL thinks there might be an improvement in head, terrier expression, and character. Many terriers at shows are plain in the head, round in skull, and light in the eye, and he advocates the issue of a scale of measurements by the Fox Terrier Club, to accompany the Standard of Points, and fix a limit, as weight is not always to be relied upon. MR. PERCY HOWARD would increase the point values for hindquarters to secure more attention to this point.

When I come to the recommendations of this breed, I find myself confronted with an *embarras de richesses!* The Duchess of Newcastle deems them jolly little sportsmen, always ready, always busy—a really game terrier it is a pleasure to own; but prefers the wire-haired variety, as they certainly look gamier, and taking them all through, certainly have better heads than their smooth cousins. Lady Edith Villiers values them for their sporting qualities. Mr. J. C. Tinné finds they delight, satisfy, and fascinate more than any other variety; their proper use, of course, is to bolt a fox; but other uses are rabbiting, ratting, and shooting (though this may surprise some unbelievers!), and conferring unfading and unfadable delight on their owners. Mr. Francis Redmond finds them game, hardy, sensible, and capable of doing everything, from ratting to badger drawing, that could be expected from a working terrier, and at the same time an intelligent companion, equally at home in the crowded streets of a busy town, or the wilds of the country. Mr. W. S. Glynn finds a fascination in the charming people, both ladies and men, who own specimens of the breed. Mrs. M. G. Burns, whose enthusiasm for the breed has carried her to the honorary secretaryship of a very flourishing club, the Ulster Fox Terrier Club, loving all dogs, gives the fox terrier first place as a gay, lively, intelligent, and most faithful companion, and considers there can be no more absorbing or fascinating hobby than in breeding puppies and watching them grow up, or greater pleasure than winning prizes with dogs of your own breeding. Mr. Lindley Gill considers they combine all the three qualities needed in a dog, viz., good guard, good sportsman, and good pal. And they are ever cheerful and without compeer as house

or sporting dogs. But why go on? Seven years ago Mr. Rawdon Lee estimated that there were some 9000 show-pedigree fox terriers bred every year in the United Kingdom. I am not going to attempt to estimate the number bred now; but those old figures—are they not the best recommendation of all?

And yet I have one recommendation left which I do not think has been often mentioned by books on the dog. The fox terrier is the best canine pet for India and the tropics. Of this Captain Wilkie reminds me in one of two anecdotes he gives, both bearing testimony to the cleverness of the little dog, and for both of which I must find room.

I once possessed a bitch of the Hunton strain (he writes), who, besides being a perfect rat killer and ideal mother, showed an unusual cunning. She discovered how to open kennel gates that fastened with a dropping latch. It was impossible to confine her in any kennel unless it were locked. She would never open a gate if she knew she was being watched, but the moment she thought she was unobserved she would raise the latch with her nose, drawing back the gate with her foot at the same time. Her next manœuvre was to learn to open kennel-gates from the outside, pressing the end of the latch down with one foot, and pushing at the barrier with her nose. Thus she could not only get in and out at will, but let the other dogs out. Our first countermove was a piece of twisted wire to fasten the latch, but she diagnosed it, untwisted it, and freed herself, and there was nothing left but to use a padlock. Our other dogs soon came to know of her accomplishment, and would run to the old bitch, and then back to the gate, until she understood, and opened their gates for them. I have seen her do this many times. At last the eggs began to disappear from the larder, and could not be accounted for, until one day I saw the bitch open her kennel gate directly she saw the cook leave the larder door open, run into the larder, and return with an egg in her mouth, back to her enclosure, there to drop it on the ground to break it, and then assimilate it, shell and all! Although she was so cunning it was quite impossible to teach her any tricks.

Another fox terrier bitch of mine in India whelped in the hottest

season. We tried to find her a cool place, but everywhere was very hot, and she was not satisfied, and very restless. When the puppies were about two weeks old she was suddenly struck with a happy thought. Running to the foot of a big shady tree, she began to dig for all she was worth under one of its large roots, until she had made a sloping hole about two feet deep. She then carried her puppies there one by one, and reaped the reward of her intelligence and contrivance by being domiciled in the coolest spot in the compound.

And here I am tempted to obtrude my own experience of fox terriers in India, or at least of one, by way of showing how the little chap adapts himself to jungle life. Whilst living in the Himalayas I came to be the possessor of a pedigree dog, born from imported parents. It acquires the name of V.C. from a singularly plucky fight it sustained with another dog about twice its weight. The district swarmed with jackals, and I used to hunt them with a couple of greyhounds and a Rampur hound. Riding was out of the question, the country being more precipices than anything else, save in a broken valley, dissected by innumerable ridges, where you kept losing sight of the dogs and catching glimpses of them again as you breasted each successive ridge. The greyhounds used to take up a position on the summits of these ridges, and speer round for a jackal, and if they saw it, it was all right. V.C. didn't quite know what to make of this form of sport when he first joined the pack. To see the greyhounds suddenly whang off, without rhyme or reason, leaving him miles behind, seemed to him a silly sort of game till he experienced the joys of assisting in the kill of his first jackal. And then he grasped the whole subject, and the next time I took him out he got on the line of a jackal, and carried it like a hound, whilst the greyhounds and Rampur looked on perfectly nonplussed by this to them, new method of hunting. But, as it happened,

V.C. roused his jackal, and so gave ocular demonstration of his system of sport. If ever there was a dog that learnt his duties purely by the light of nature, it was V.C. Thereafter it was a competition between him and the greyhounds whether they should spy or he scent the line of a jackal first. If they got the first show, away they went, with poor little V.C. pelting sixteen annas after them, and cursing them for going so fast; but if he got on the scent first, away he would go, head down and tail gay, and giving tongue with the pride begotten of his olfactory ability. It was the most comical thing to see the greyhounds, who soon came to recognise the infallibility of his method of getting at the jacks, cursing him now for going too slowly to suit their long legs, and I have seen old Chris butt V.C. in the rump to make him stir his stumps. And when he carried them to a view, devilish little *camaraderie* had they left for V.C. Like an arrow from a bow they would shoot ahead, and leave him standing. But he always got in for the kill, and they never failed to leave him a quivering hind leg to worry, though they declined to trust him with such an important point of attack as the throat. When all was over, little V.C. had a habit of rolling himself in the blood of the defunct jackal, and then erecting his tail very cockily, and trotting off with side glances which desired every one to take notice of his proofs of having been in at the kill. He was the dearest and jolliest little dog I ever had in India, and must have put the hounds on some scores of jackals in his time. I only saw him once defeated in the chase, and that was when he got hold of an iguana, or similar lizard. The brute had a tail as tough as a blacksmith's anvil, and V.C. wasted an afternoon and evening in abortive attempts to haul

it out of a hole it had managed to squeeze its body into. He came back with the conviction that iguanas didn't play the game. The curious thing about V.C. was that he was despicably afraid of mice (who thought nothing of a wild cat), and yet he was nuts on scorpions, and would go searching for them directly the rains broke and they came to life, and kill half a dozen of an evening.

If any reader of this book desires to make a present to a friend in India, or other hot climate, let him ship him out a fox terrier, and I warrant he will never be forgotten, but have his health drunk at Christmas so long as the dog remains alive.

The following are the points of the fox terrier as recommended by the Fox Terrier Club :—

STANDARD OF POINTS OF THE FOX TERRIER

HEAD.—The skull should be flat and moderately narrow, and gradually decreasing in width to the eyes. Not much stop should be apparent, but there should be more dip in the profile between the forehead and the top jaw than is seen in the case of the greyhound.

CHEEKS.—Must not be full.

EARS.—Should be V-shaped and small; of moderate thickness, and dropping forward close to the cheek, not hanging by the side of the head like a foxhound's.

JAW.—Upper and under should be strong and muscular; should be of fair punishing strength, but not so in any way to resemble the greyhound or modern English terrier. There should not be much falling away below the eyes. This part of the head should, however, be moderately chiselled out, so as not to go down in a straight line like a wedge.

NOSE—towards which the muzzle should gradually taper—must be black.

EYES.—Should be dark in colour, small, and rather deep set; full of fire, life, and intelligence, and as nearly as possible circular in shape.

TEETH.—Should be as nearly as possible level, *i.e.*, the upper teeth on the outside of the lower teeth.

NECK.—Should be clean and muscular, without throatiness, of fair length, and gradually widening to the shoulders.

SHOULDERS.—Should be long and sloping, well laid back, fine at the points, and clearly cut at the withers.

CHEST.—Deep and not broad.

BACK.—Should be short, straight, and strong, with no appearance of slackness.

LOIN.—Should be powerful, and very slightly arched. The fore ribs should be moderately arched, the back ribs deep, and the dog should be well ribbed up.

HINDQUARTERS.—Should be strong and muscular, quite free from droop or crouch; the thighs long and powerful; hocks near the ground, the dogs standing well up on them like a foxhound, and not straight in the stifle.

STERN.—Should be set on rather high and carried gaily, but not over the back or curled. It should be of good strength, anything approaching a "pipe-stopper" tail being especially objectionable.

LEGS.—Viewed in any direction must be straight, showing little or no appearance of an ankle in front. They should be strong in bone throughout, short, and straight to pastern. Both fore and hind legs should be carried straight forward in travelling, the stifles not turned outwards. The elbows should hang perpendicularly to the body, working free of the side.

FEET.—Should be round and compact, and not large. The soles hard and tough. The toes moderately arched, and turned neither in nor out.

COAT.—Should be straight, flat, smooth, hard, dense, and abundant. The belly and under side of the thighs should not be bare.

COLOUR.—White should predominate; brindle, red, or liver markings are objectionable. Otherwise this point is of little importance.

SYMMETRY, SIZE, AND CHARACTER.—The dog must present a general gay, lively, and attractive appearance; bone and strength in a small compass are essentials, but this must not be taken to mean that a fox terrier should be cloggy, or in any way coarse. Speed and endurance must be looked to as well as power, and the symmetry of the foxhound taken as a model. The terrier, like the hound, must on no account be leggy, nor must he be short in the leg. He should stand like a cleverly-made hunter, covering a lot of ground, yet with a short back, as before stated. He will then attain the greatest degree of propelling power, together with the greatest length of stride that is compatible with the length of his body. Weight is not a certain criterion of a terrier's fitness for his work; general shape, size, and contour are the main points. And if a dog can gallop and stay, and follow his fox up a drain it matters little what his weight is to a pound or so. Though, roughly speaking, it may be said he should not scale over 20 lbs. in show condition.

POINT VALUES—

| | |
|---|---|
| Head and ears | 15 |
| Neck | 5 |
| Shoulders and chest | 15 |
| Back and loins | 10 |
| Hindquarters | 5 |
| Stern | 5 |
| Legs and feet | 20 |
| Coat | 10 |
| Symmetry, size, character | 15 |
| Total | 100 |

*Disqualifying Points.* — *Nose*, white, cherry, or spotted to a considerable extent with either of these colours: *Ears*, prick, tulip, or rose: *Mouth*, much undershot or overshot.

As might be expected in so popular a breed a very great number of dogs and bitches have been selected by my various contributors as the most representative of their race. To give the first six in the order voted for, they run—Ch. *Donna Fortuna* (an easy first), Ch. *Leander*, Ch. *Duchess of Durham*, Ch. *Dukedom*, Ch. *Blizzard*, and *Cymro Queen*. Of these I have selected Ch. *Donna Fortuna* for illustration.

Ch. *Donna Fortuna* was bred and is owned by Mr. Francis Redmond, being by Ch. *Dominie* out of that perfect bitch Ch. *Dame Fortune*, and was born in 1896. She scales 15 inches, weighs 17½ lbs., and is all-white, with black ears. Her owner briefly describes her as having dark eyes, perfect carriage of ears, stern gay and perfectly carried, coat hard and dense; legs, feet, and bone neat, and as good in conformation as a foxhound's. She has won championships at every leading show, and has never known defeat, and the score of her prizes is beyond reckoning. She is the dam of Ch. *Don Cesario* and other noted winners.

FOX TERRIER (1860).

# THE FOX TERRIER (WIRE-HAIRED)

THERE are persons who think, and perhaps with justice, that the wire-haired fox terrier, like Esau, has been deprived of his birthright by his smoother brother, between whom and him exists only the difference of the hairier skin; and, as if to confirm the simile, they will assure you that the rough one is the gamier and hardier hunter of the two. Certain it is that there have been periods when the wire-haired fox terrier met with truly abominable and derogatory treatment—as, for instance, when he first started his show career, and was relegated to the non-sporting division of dogs; or again, when he was jumbled up in some early stud registers with the Irish terrier—for although you may describe them (from vermin's point of view) as *Arcades ambo*, they are assuredly as distinct in type as the Tipperary trotter and the Yorkshire tyke; or, still again, when the Kennel Club, within the last quarter of a century, humiliated them by "removing them from the arbitrament of the fox terrier judges," as being of a different breed. On the other hand, it must be admitted that the wire-haired was not so well known or understood in those times as he is nowadays; for, like your truest and best of sportsmen, he displayed a certain diffidence, amounting to disinclination, to push himself forward, and whilst smooths were booming in

the 'Sixties, wires, on occasions, could not produce sufficient entries in the 'Seventies to win a third prize, and seldom exceeded a dozen. As a consequence they "languished in obscurity" until ten years after their first bow to the judge at the Birmingham Dog Show of 1872, and it took the work of a second decade to bring them into the favour and popularity they now universally enjoy, and jockey them into that position in the race which may in time bring them level with their smooth brothers.

And yet the wire-haired fox terrier was the Rev. John Russell's breed, and what does that not imply? For where shall you find any terrier strain, or, for a matter of that, any strain of dogs, so honoured and renowned as that of the Devonshire parson, whose distaste for show dogs was almost as profound as his admiration for working ones? I suppose he is the only terrier-fancier who achieved a world-wide reputation for his stock without the aid of red tickets and championship certificates. Mr. Russell has been called the father of the breed; he started his famous strain in Waterloo year, and he died in the 'Nineties, and his experience comprehended the whole gamut of type from the chaotic to the completed. He was as particular about the pedigrees of his own dogs as the most expert and successful of modern exhibitors, and only once admitted an out-cross, when he imported a dash of blood from *Old Jock*, who was the Shem of the trio from which the smooth fox-terrier-world was begotten. Parson Russell's terriers were on the small side, the dogs seldom exceeding 18 lbs., and the bitches running two or three pounds less. Some of their blood is still to be found in kennels in the south-west and west of England, but is not so apparent in our Stud Books as the fame of it should have warranted. And notwith-

standing that Devonshire had the advantage of such a splendid kennel located within its broad boundaries, the northern counties—those fine homes of dog development—can claim a greater share in the fostering and perfecting of the wire-haired fox terrier than any other. And this is more especially true of Yorkshire and Durham and some of the otter hunting districts of Cumberland and Westmoreland. *Venture*, belonging to Mr. Carrick, of Carlisle, and that dog's sire, *Old Tip*, are regarded as the original pillars of this branch of the fox terrier family. They were whelped in the 'Sixties, and *Venture* was being shown and winning in the early 'Seventies.

It happens that my own humble experience of sporting dogs begins with a wire-haired fox terrier, and dates back some forty years ago to the occasion of spending my summer holidays with an uncle in Yorkshire, a fine old sporting parson of a by-gone type, whose living was in a little old-world village on the borders of a wild Yorkshire moor, albeit it was called a Common. He kept several good dogs, setters and pointers, with which, after his eightieth year, he was wont to walk up his birds for long days through stubble and turnip, and waste fewer cartridges than any man I have ever shot with. He divided his affection for animals between his shooting dogs, a couple of horses, and a stye full of exceedingly choice pigs. But his love was confined to and centred in his wire-haired fox terrier *Wick*, called partly after a brother parson, who had sent it up to him as a present from the south of England. In addition to his love for it he valued it beyond words, and it comes to my memory that he was wont to speak of its breeding as something out of the common, and I have a suspicion it may have emanated from Devonshire, and (my uncle himself a

west country man) been imported into Yorkshire to put a head on the tykes!

*Wick* and I struck up the friendship that easily cements between a schoolboy and a dog whom he will lead afield. We practically spent these holidays together, mostly on the moor, and he gave me my first insight into poaching, ratting, rabbiting, and, on one occasion, fishing.

For I remember one day, it being a very droughty summer, we came across a secluded pond in a far corner of the moor, wherein all the water had evaporated, and there was only left behind a muddy residue about the consistency of cream; and in this wriggled, in a sort of snaky inferno, myriads of eels.

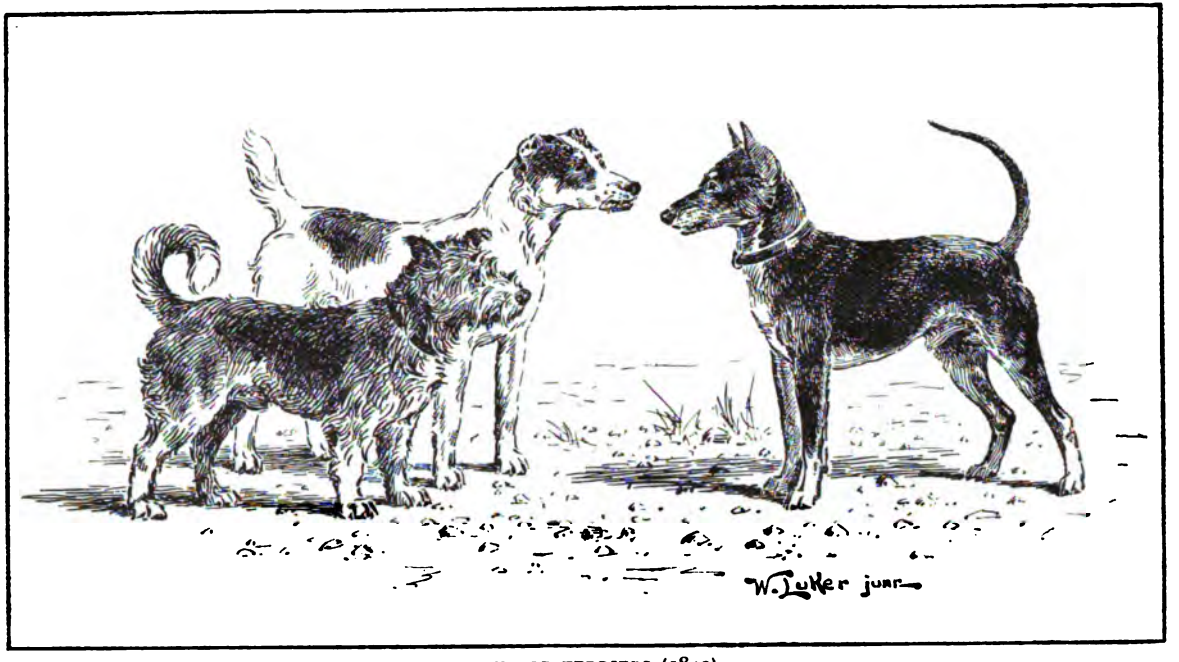
For myself, town-schooled and tender in years, I did not relish the look or attitudes of those serpentine eels, and rather wanted to pursue a butterfly, until *Wick*, with the courage of his kind, dashed into the mud, and bringing himself to believe that they were water-rats, treated the eels to an impartial slaughter. Whereupon I tucked up my breeches and followed, being persuaded that I had seen the prototypes of these fearful wild things on fishmongers' slabs, and with the memory of stewed eels, eaten at Evesham or Tewkesbury, to encourage me. It was the finest fishing I ever had in my life, for I merely had to scoop them up and shoot them out on to the banks of the pond, where I very shortly had a hundred or more, writhing and wriggling to get back to their native home. *Wick* went crazy, and I was cock-a-hoop at this monstrous stroke of luck that made splendid my morning ramble with such glorious spoil, for in that remote village fish was a luxury never seen. The fun waxed fast and furious as *Wick* and I sought to shepherd our restless victims, and I cast about for a method of transport, and would

have given two weeks' pocket money for a sack. Of course there was only one thing to be done; I divested myself of my breeches, tied up the ends with rushes, and, cramming the legs full of eels, swung the burden athwart my neck, and, garbed something after the fashion of a famous character in *King Solomon's Mines*, stalked home in semi-attire, with *Wick* heralding my approach with frantic barks and yells, and amazing leaps to try and get at the obtruding heads that squirmed out most uncomfortably round my neck.

That dog led me into more mischief than did any of the bad companions I have consorted with in my life; and I love his memory better than that of all my pastors, masters, and spiritual mentors lumped together. He was such a fascinating, confidential little blackguard, and so thoroughly sinful, and was continually fox-hunting by himself at midsummer, not to mention snapping up leverets on the moor in distinct defiance of all game laws and landlords' rights. If my recollection of him can be relied on, and his appearance and conformation still remain very vivid in my mind's eye —faith! an' he came to life again, I would undertake to single him out from a crowd of his kind—he might have got his V.H.C. in a ring of wire-haired terriers to-day. He was on the small side, with a very long head, marked with tan, a rough coat, as wiry as you could wish, and the wickedest dark eyes, that even delighted with their unfathomable expression of demonry and wickedness. And to this day I can never pass a bench of wire-haired fox terriers at a show but the spirit of that gay little fellow seems to rise before my eyes, and, like the odour of brine from the ocean, come the thoughts of many scrapes. The day we shivered the new cucumber frame, killing a cat, he got chained up, and I sent to bed.

A little while back I made allusion to the wire-haired fox terrier being muddled up in certain Stud Books with Irish terriers. In this connection, and as harking back to ancient history and old-time colour of the breed, it is interesting to note that Mr. Wootton, an enthusiastic fancier, who did much to popularise the variety, considered the best wire-haired fox terrier he had ever seen was a dog called *Trimmer*, which came from Lord Southampton's kennels. It weighed about 16 lbs., and was a black with tan, or rather tawny muzzle and feet. "Had the dog lived to-day," says Mr. Rawdon Lee, who gives full particulars about him, and his deeds of derring-do, "he would no doubt have been classed as a Welsh terrier." Indeed, all the wire-haired terrier tribe are, on the face of them, first cousins, and it is only during recent years that the skill of the fancier, and the exact science to which he has reduced breeding, have narrowed them into their own grooves, and endowed them with individual characteristics which distinguish them from each other. Put a wire-haired fox terrier, a Welsh and an Irish terrier, into a ring, and you shall have a trio which, apart from colour, can match as closely as an Englishman, an Irishman, and a Welshman.

The wire-haired fox terrier has one serious drawback, regarded from a show point of view: he must be trimmed. He does not grow his crop of hair to a common standard, and his skin is as capable of hirsute variation as the cheeks of his masters. You may read of a winning specimen, claimed at a show at his catalogue price, developing into something of the Maltese type as regards the length of that coat which satisfied the critical eye of the judge two months previously; and for the hair on the dog's face, it requires to be treated with the skill of an eyebrow-barber. If I say




GROUP OF TERRIERS (1843).

" requires," it is because up to now this trimming has been almost universal, and the Kennel Club's regulations on the subject more honoured in the breach than in the observance. These practices had grown to such a pitch that, on the 1st of July 1903, a new set of rules as to the preparation of dogs for exhibition came into force, which declared that a dog should be rigidly disqualified from winning a prize if (*inter alia*) any part of its coat or hair had been cut, clipped, singed, or rasped by any substance, or new or fast coat removed by pulling or plucking. The very phraseology of this rule is eloquent, and it will be curious to see what practical effect it has on those varieties, especially wire-haired fox terriers, to which it applies. So far back as 1888 the Kennel Club " called the attention of judges to the practice with a view to its being suppressed." Fifteen years later it has again to legislate on the matter—a sufficient criticism on its failure to check it in the interim. It will be interesting to note what effect this edict will have on the popularity of the breed, and whether or not it will set it back. For if the rule is rigidly enforced, the skill of the fancier is wasted, and he may decline the breed. After all is said and done, trimming is not a cruel operation, like cropping the ears and others, and if it is allowed in the case of a poodle, it may be argued what is sauce for the goose should be sauce for the gander. There is no discredit in clipping a horse, hogging its mane or otherwise dealing with its appearance to improve it, and make it more admired. And speaking purely from a logical point of view, it is difficult to see any harm in practices which are not cruel, and only indulged in to draw admiration to the dog operated upon. Pulling or plucking is another operation altogether, and these remarks do not apply to it. However, I am wandering away from my

proper province, which is not to express opinions, but simply to quote them, and I will proceed to do so, by reproducing those provided by my contributors :—

MR. H. H. ENFIELD.—I consider that the type of modern wire-haired fox terrier is good, but it is remarkable that some of our big winners are deficient in this respect, and I think this is attributable to the tendency of certain judges to judge entirely upon points. Many winners are selected rather as examples of show points than as being symmetrical specimens of a particular type. In point values I think a disqualifying point should be added for *soft or linty coats*. It is a matter for regret that so sporting a fraternity as the breeders and exhibitors of wire-haired fox terriers should display a tendency to overlook what ought to be a chief characteristic of the breed, viz., a hard, dense, wire coat. Judges and exhibitors are much too indifferent upon this subject, and almost any sort of coat may pass muster in the show ring, provided the dog otherwise excels in show points. At the present time the prominent winners with sound wire coats could be counted upon the fingers of one hand, and unless judges and breeders can be induced to give greater attention to the matter of coats, it is to be feared that the wire-haired fox terrier proper will, in the course of a few years, become extinct. (After reading this article in proof Mr. Enfield added the following remarks.) A really sound coated terrier does not require trimming. Some dogs, however, grow coats of good wire texture, but too abundant. Such dogs require to be stripped periodically, and can only be shown when the coat is partly grown. Wire fox terriers are not, I think, often shown with coats "cut or clipped like a poodle." This would be too easily detected. When the coat has to be renewed it is pulled out by the roots, and this is undoubtedly a cruel operation, except when the old coat is ready to be cast. Moreover, no amount of trimming or pulling can make a soft coat appear hard. The real mischief begins when foreign substances are put into the coat to harden it. Some experts have become so clever that a thoroughly bad coat treated by them can be made to handle well enough to deceive some judges. The Fox Terrier Club has just passed a resolution which it is hoped may check this abuse. A show terrier should have a coat that will enable him to work in all kinds of weather, otherwise he cannot be considered a sound terrier. In my opinion there has been a great deterioration in coats in the last ten years.

MR. W. E. PITT PITTS.—I am not satisfied with the modern

type of wire-haired fox terriers; they require better hindquarters, fox-terrier expression, smaller, darker eyes, and keener terrier outlook. Many of our best wires are bad movers and wrong in hind action. In point values too much is given for fronts, legs, and feet, and not enough for loin, thighs, hocks, and action. Judges should insist on wires and smooths having separate classification, and also the sexes being provided with separate classes.

MR. W. S. GLYNNE.—I am absolutely satisfied with the modern type of wire-haired fox terrier; it would be impossible to improve it as a whole. But the Standard of Points is ridiculous, and must have been drawn up in prehistoric times. The standard gives 55 points for the front part of the terrier, and but 20 for the hind part,—actually magnanimously allocating 5 points to hindquarters out of a total of a hundred. Yet, surely, the hindquarters of a terrier are a most important part? It is hardly necessary to add that no judge of a terrier would be so unfair to himself, or the dogs he is officiating upon, as to for one moment, when judging, allow the said standard of olden time to weigh in his mind. Coat gets 10 points—I would rather it were 20, and that more judges understood what a real wire-hair coat is than do now. Coat is the chief characteristic in a wire-hair, and the standard ought to encourage judges to do their duty in severely handicapping the flat-catching, beatifully prepared soft coat.

MR. FRANCIS REDMOND.—My remarks on the smooth fox terrier apply equally to the wire-haired, except that the latter breed has a coat to be dealt with, which needs preparation and manipulation for show, and makes it possible for a bad, or moderate-coated terrier in the hands of one skilled in the preparation of wire or rough coated dogs for exhibition, to be presented to the judge looking better in coat and general appearance than the more natural coated specimen in the hands of the man less skilled in the art of preparation for show.

MAJOR A. DE CASTRO—The *type* is right, but I should like to see an improvement—(1) in ears, which are too large; (2) in coat, which is soft and too abundant, when not trimmed; (3) in tail, many of our best dogs carrying their tails over their back or curled. The point values want adjustment; there is not sufficient value given to the coat, which is only apportioned 10 points, whereas, considering the characteristic (as its name implies) of the coat, more value should be attached to it. The old and well-worn subject of trimming is always with the breeder and exhibitor of the wire-haired terrier. The dog, as exhibited, trimmed to a nicety, is the dog we want, but which, save in a

few instances, we *cannot* breed! If we do, they frequently have faults which put them back when competing with trimmed rivals. No points are given for the natural wire coat; the dog so blessed stands on equal terms with regard to it. This, I think, is unfair. The coat of the wire-haired fox terrier should count 25 per cent or even 50 per cent in points, and any terrier considered by the judge to be trimmed should not receive a point for its coat. This should have the effect of stopping an unfair and cruel practice.

MR. T. M. FOGG.—In my opinion the present-day dog is much too large, and losing all terrier character; and, as a rule, the wires are very weak in their hindquarters, which is one of the most essential points of the working terrier. The Standard of Points I consider good, with the exception of size, where there should be a hard and fast line drawn. The type that some judges favour is totally at variance with the working terrier, and more favours the whippet. To my mind there are not so many genuine, good, all-round terriers at the present time as there were fifteen years ago, when I started breeding. I consider the reason of this is that there are too many crazes, such as getting absurdly long, narrow heads and fronts to suit the present-day judge.

The recommendations of the wire-haired fox terrier run on a line with those of his smooth brother. So good an all-round judge of terriers as Mr. Glynn is "strongly of opinion that the wire-haired fox terrier is the gamest terrier of the day; he is certainly the gayest, brightest, and most companionable of dogs." Mr. Enfield finds him a game, sporting dog, and a most excellent companion indoors and out. Mr. Pitt Pitts prefers it as a good working dog and intelligent companion; very game if properly trained, and a convenient size to keep or take about with you. Mr. Fogg considers the wire-haired fox terrier exceeds all other breeds of terriers for gameness and working ability, besides showing more sagacity. Provided they are not kept from a money-making point of view, which means being hustled and harassed about from show to show, they are of a hardy nature, and easily bred if

properly and naturally treated. But probably the dog's best recommendation is its extraordinary advance in popularity.

The Standard of Points for wire-haired fox terriers is the same as for that of the smooth, which they should resemble in every respect except the coat, which should be more broken. The harder and more wiry the texture of the coat is, the better. On no account should the dog look or feel woolly, and there should be no silky hair about the poll or elsewhere. The coat should not be too long, so as to give the dog a shaggy appearance, but at the same time it should show a marked and distinct difference all over from the smooth species.

POINT VALUES (as altered at the meeting of the Fox Terrier Club, November 10, 1903)—

| | |
|---|---|
| Head and ears | 15 |
| Neck | 5 |
| Shoulders and chest | 10 |
| Back and loin | 10 |
| Hindquarters | 15 |
| Stern | 5 |
| Legs and feet | 15 |
| Coat | 10 |
| Symmetry, size, and character | 15 |
| Total | 100 |

At the same meeting the club passed the following resolution :—

In consequence of the practice of tampering with the coats of wire-haired fox terriers, by the use of sticky substances, the Fox Terrier Club Committee beg to call the attention of judges to this reprehensible practice, in the hope that they will call in the advice of the veterinary inspector in cases where there is ground for suspicion, with a view to lodging objections.

Amongst the most typical dogs in the breed are: Ch. *Dusky Reine*, Ch. *Commodore of Notts*, Ch. *Dusky Admiral*, *Northfield Knockout*, Ch. *Royston Remus*,

*Dusky Gleaner*, and *Doddington Topper*, and I have selected the first named.

Ch. *Dusky Reine* was bred by Mr. Francis Redmond, and is the property of Mr. H. H. Enfield. She is by Ch. *Royston Remus* ex *Don't Go*, and was born in October 1899. She weighs 16 lbs., and is white with one tan ear. Mr. H. H. Enfield describes her as follows :—"Ch. *Dusky Reine* is a typical model of a fox terrier, the correct size, perfectly balanced throughout, brimful of character, and combining substance and strength with the very highest quality. She possesses a beautifully modelled head, is strong in foreface, and with the rare quality of skull that does not thicken with age. Her small well-carried ears and dark, keen eyes give her the varminty terrier-like expression characteristic of her breed. Her front is absolutely true. She has good round bone carried to the toes, and round compact feet. Her shoulders are clean and well-placed, her ribs well sprung, and her back straight and strong. Her hocks are near the ground, and her hindquarters very beautifully proportioned. Action straight and good ; gay and lively carriage, and coat is a good wire texture all over, hard, dense and weather-resisting. She has won nine championships, and innumerable prizes, medals, cups, etc., including the Fox Terrier Club's fifty guinea challenge cup.

# THE IRISH TERRIER

THE Irish terrier of to-day, like many another breed of dog of which this book treats, is the product of civilisation—the survival of the fancier's fittest, and has been gradually and skilfully developed during the last thirty years or so. Not that I would impugn its ancestry from an ancient race in Ireland, being convinced it is as Irish as the shamrock. The Green Isle, encircled by the sea, has probably kept its terrier tribe in as great exclusiveness as its people, with just a dash of Scotch blood admitted, as you may find in Protestant Ulster—and none the worse for that. Could we in England boast a like purity for our English terriers, we certainly should not have as many varieties of them as we exhibit. And one thing proves itself — namely, that the Irish terrier has inherited and is associated with well defined, moral characteristics that are essentially Irish and essentially its own. Notwithstanding I do not think the most devoted admirers of the dog can claim that it represents any particular type of the past, although they may, with perfect truth, assert that it is a typical representative of Ireland. For we have middle-aged men, living in our midst to-day, to remind us of the actual medley of types from which it is evolved, and to recall the uncompromisingly divergent specimens that adorned

*F. Clifton, photo.*

IRISH TERRIER.

*Ch.* MILE END MUDDLER.

*J. Lowery, photo.*

SCOTTISH TERRIER.

*Ch.* HEATHER ROCKET.

PLATE XXXIV.

the Irish terrier benches in the early days of its exhibition.

As one who has in his time championed the ancestry of Irish wolf-hounds, my sympathies are all with that of Irish terriers, and I would willingly invent a pedigree for them that should stretch back to the times of the ancient Kings of Ireland if I could only be sure of not being found out. Alas, I am hedged and bound, cribb'd, cabin'd, and confined by too many authorities on the breed for me to carry a new trail of my own. They leave no doubt; they make the heterogeneous stock from which it has emerged unanswerably actual. And the only consolation that remains is that it evidently took several species of first class terrier types to make the perfect one produced. The Irish terrier of to-day is not so much the survival as the accumulation of the fittest.

From this condition of antecedents one reflection strikes me forcibly—namely, that whereas in England the original terrier or two has branched out into at least nine families, and in Scotland into four or five, the development of the terrier in Ireland has proceeded on exactly opposite lines, and consolidated its several types into one; and it is open to doubt if all the varying English modern types blended together could produce such a "oner."

See you the sources from which the one and only Irish terrier has been derived. Consult the various writers and compilers on the subject, and you will find the following varieties of terriers mentioned as existing, in times past, in different localities of Ireland. There was a wheaten-coloured dog, high on the leg, and somewhat open in coat; there was a wheaten-coloured dog, long and low on the leg, and very open in coat; there was a terrier in County Wicklow (preserved dis-

tinct, and highly prized for a century) that was long in body, short in leg, and of a blue-black colour; there was a silver-haired or slaty-blue terrier in County Limerick; there was a black terrier in County Kerry; there were in different parts of the island yellow terriers, and red terriers, and black terriers, and black and tan terriers, and brindle terriers, and greyish terriers; there were large terriers, weighing from 30 to 40 lbs., and one mentioned as weighing 50 lbs., and there were small terriers for whom an "under 9 lbs." class was provided; there were terriers with smooth coats, and wire coats, and curly coats; there were, in short, terrier types enough to create a collection. I gather this from an afternoon's study, and my authorities are Mr. Rawdon Lee, Dalziel, the late Mr. G. Krehl, Mr. W. J. Cotton of County Wicklow, Mr. C. J. Barnett, Mr. W. C. Bennett of Dublin, and other well-known writers or contributors on the subject of the origin of this dog.

From this galaxy of material the Irish fancier has been content to evolve a single species, and to patriotically call it by a national name, despising the provincialism of the nomenclature of our English terrier breeds, and claiming for it a title which every Irishman can take a pride in.

Notwithstanding, whatever and how many these various terrier types from which the modern Irish terrier has been evolved, each of the component parts was an institution in its particular locality, and apparently sacrificed its individuality for the general good. In County Wicklow the local terrier appears to have been used as a watch-dog for the cotters' crops, the trifling cost of its support bringing its keep within the compass of the impoverished peasant's purse. Here a dash of British bulldog blood is believed to have

been assimilated what time the English garrisons quartered the rebel strongholds, with their canine favourites in their train; for Tommy Atkins is a devoted dog-fancier, as every military cantonment in India will prove. The north of Ireland was accounted the stronghold of the type now held to be representative, but in those high latitudes there are whispers of Scotch terrier blood having crept in. *Killiney Boy*, one of the pillars of the modern breed, was Dublin bred, and at one time of his life masterless and deserted; his progeny, by a Belfast bitch, named *Erin*, lived to be famous. The Curragh produced a pair that have a niche in the records. Wexford had a strain of its own, and so had Tipperary. And I have no doubt it was the same with a dozen other unrecorded localities. Ireland has ever been famous for its women, its horses, and its dogs, and the terrier was essentially the dog of the people. But the peasantry gave little heed to appearance—only to courage, and that is probably why the "Dare-Devil" has retained and accentuated that characteristic, whilst type has been more a matter of local luck operated on by subsequent selection. When the Irishman was first put on the show-bench it was rarely he could be provided with a pedigree. But you may say the same for the pillars of the fox-terrier breed, only the Irishman was a little late to arrive, and by the time he did there were breeds able to swagger it with their family trees.

What mutual characteristic beyond their courage these terriers of Ireland possessed it would be difficult to say, but Mr. C. J. Barnett makes no doubt that the "Irish terrier was the common terrier of Ireland a hundred years ago." And the late Mr. G. R. Krehl, a most enthusiastic fancier of the breed, was of opinion that "the Irish terrier was a true and distinct breed

indigenous to Ireland, but that no man could trace its origin." He points out that in old pictures representing scenes of Irish life the terrier was often depicted, and he quotes Mr. Ridgway, the first fancier to draw up a Standard of Points for the breed, as asserting that "they had been known in Ireland as long as that country had been an island, and he grounded his faith in their age and purity from the fact that there exist old manuscripts mentioning the breed at a very remote period."

On this statement Dalziel swoops like a falcon on its prey. "Surely man never yet grounded his faith on a more slender basis," he declares, and would have those "ancient manuscripts" tabled and examined. But scepticism is not confutation, and it is possible such manuscripts could and did exist. And after all, no one doubts that the Irish terrier is an Irish dog, and such being the case, by an unavoidable law of nature he must have had progenitors. Dalziel almost seems to doubt this, for he writes, "Richardson, an Irishman, and an enthusiast on the subject of Irish dogs, described the varieties of terriers of Scotland, as he saw them, with accuracy; but of Irish terriers, as a breed, and writing as lately as 1847, he says nothing. Of a breed of terriers in Ireland he, indeed, writes; but it was very different from the Irish terriers of our shows"—and proceeds to describe the harlequin terrier (bluish-slate in colour, marked with blotches and darker patches, and often with tan about the legs and muzzle), and to speculate whether some of the strain was not left in Ireland, and, if not, to predict it would be an easy matter to produce such a terrier by a cross between a small Dane bitch of the desired colour and a black and tan terrier, and commends the idea to speculative breeders. Dalziel is dazzling here!

By which roundabout process I come back to the point from which I started—namely, with the expression of opinion that the single terrier of Ireland, as known and accepted in this twentieth century, is probably the outcome of several strains, which, had they been kept separate, might perchance have established themselves as several different breeds, as have our English terriers. That the perfected article is as different to its progenitors as the bulldog of to-day to the savage beast they baited bulls with when George III. was king, is not only as it is, but as it should be. This is an age of evolution and improvement, and, except in cases of crazy exaggeration, no one could wish to set our dogs back half a century. Certainly not the Irish terrier, as we know him, for few dogs have improved more or come into line better than the handsome, plucky, and popular little fellow who has won for himself the proud sobriquet of Dare-Devil. If the sister isle has been content with one representative of its terrier family, whilst we in England have elaborated ours into half a score, she has condensed into that single specimen enough good terrier qualities to dower a whole tribe with the finest virtues of its kind.

The late Mr. Krehl once exploited an ingenious theory that the Irish terrier, before the cunning hand of the exhibitor had run over him, was the descendant of the ancient Irish wolf-hound, and wrote, "We still consider a miniature Irish wolf-hound a good description of what we should like the Irish terrier to be. Look at the description of that grand old bitch *Spuds* in Stonehenge, and you have the wolf-hound's head and outline." This pet theory may seem rather far-fetched, but here is a fact that fits into it. When the Irish wolf-hound *Wolfe Tone* was a three months' old whelp I was corresponding about the breed with Captain

Graham, who may almost be described as its re-creator; and I described the pup to him in a letter as "like an Irish terrier, especially in the head, and barring the colour." The reply came back, "That's just what he should be," or words to that effect. Wherefore, when I read Mr. Krehl's pet theory my mind reverted instantly to that correspondence, and I was persuaded there was more in his argument than might appear on the surface; for if you can have a mastiff and a pug on parallel lines divided by latitude, I see no reason why there should not be a similar parallel between an Irish wolf-hound and terrier. On the other hand, I am bound to confess that whilst the modern Irish terrier is an Irish dog, there are some sceptics who disbelieve the same of the Irish wolf-hound; and by no ingenuity of argument can you trace the likeness between the wolf-hound pup and the typical terrier to anything but accident. Notwithstanding, the coincidental resemblance was a genuine tribute to the correct lines on which Captain Graham re-created the breed.

The distinctive features of the Irish terrier are its hardiness, its ability to stand wet, cold, and fatigue, and its pluck and pugnacity. Reared in a damp climate, and often in a locality where, to put it mildly, it is somewhat damp under foot, he has become inured to wet, and a splendid water-dog. In Tipperary a pack of these terriers were kept to hunt the otter, and acquitted themselves as keenly, enduringly, and cleverly as otter-hounds. But with these hardy and heroic qualities the Dare-Devil combines a singularly sweet and faithful disposition when removed from the temptation of a scrape with his fellow-creatures, and his devotion to his master has passed into a proverb. Until 1888 it was the practice to crop his ears, but in that year the Irish Terrier Club condemned it, and, so far as this breed

was concerned, were instrumental in getting the Kennel Club to abolish the system, thus proving themselves pioneers in the path of humanity, for which all honour to them.

The following are the notes and criticisms which I have received from my contributors:—

MR. J. J. PIM.—The type is improving again, but still there are many quite wrong, with large, light eyes, and black muzzles; wrong and dark in colour. There are no disputed points amongst Irishmen; but only amongst the English, who have tried and greatly spoiled the breed by making them into red fox-terriers in make and shape. Irish terriers used to be a leggy, liberty, biggish terrier. I won my first prize (a first) with *Spuds* in 1875, and I believe I have now judged this breed longer than any man.

DR. RICHARD CAREY.—I think the type of the majority seen on the bench is fairly good, but enough attention is not paid to several points by breeders. Coats in many instances are bad, and require a lot of manipulation to make them fit for exhibition. The colour of the eye is not well established; too many are met with light eyes.

MR. CHARLES BACKHOUSE.—I think the tendency of the present day is to pay too much attention to head, and the consequence is that the breed is losing expression, one of its best characteristics, and falling off in size, legs, and feet.

MR. C. J. BARNETT.—The breed requires the barber's and faker's art to be severely put down. I do not know more than four champions that have natural coats. It is the ruin of the breed, and I hope and trust to see the new Kennel Club rule carried out to the letter, and with a firm hand. I helped to compile the Standard of Points, but, as the faker's art has progressed, would now give more point values for natural coat. Thirty years ago there were many black and red terriers in Ireland, with very hard coats, but of course were not bred from. I only wish we had kept to it, and not thrown out the old blacks, as their coats were very, very hard. If we had kept them perhaps so much faking would not be done now to get the coats up; it has become quite a barber's art. A working man said to me not long ago, "I go to shows, and pick out a stud dog which looks to have a good coat, and breed from him to get coats from 6 to 9 inches long. So get disgusted and give up the breed." I have twenty old and

young Irish terriers running about. A public path runs through my yard, which opens to the high road. The dogs are loose from half-past eight to nearly five o'clock. Now and then the devil enters into them, especially after a wet day, when they are shut up; otherwise they are very good, and do not interfere with any one, nor do they fight. With regard to my "ideal" Irish terrier, a few weeks ago I had a letter from a man wanting one "with a long head; flat skull; good punishing jaw; dark eyes; nice ears carried to the side of the eye; nice level teeth; *long* muscular neck well placed *in* the shoulders, not set *on* them; fine withers; nice deep chest, not wide; good straight legs with fairly small feet; straight back; very slightly arched loin; well-carried stern, set on rather high; not too far ribbed back, nor ribs too much sprung; strong, muscular hindquarters; hocks not too low, nor sickle; coat hard, and a nice yellow red, a bit darker on face than body, and ears darker still; colour must be good, right to feet; a nice lively appearance, about 24 lbs. in weight, and, above all, good-tempered. For such an animal I am game to give three guineas (on approval)." Now, do you know, that is just the sort of dog I have been looking for myself to win the "Billy Graham" cup with!

MR. GEORGE MAYALL.—Generally speaking, I approve of the modern type; but the show dogs are too coarse. More quality is required, and coats and colours have not improved.

MR. THOMAS YARR.—It is difficult to define the present type, every judge having a type of his own; but I am glad to say the prevailing opinion is in favour of the medium size, with long, flat head, dark eyes, hard coat, good bone and feet, to which we are gradually returning. I quite agree with the Standard of Points; if more intelligently aimed at by breeders in the selection of mates, and more strictly observed by judges, a terrier of the true character would soon be produced. My idea of an "ideal" terrier is: Nose black; teeth as even as possible and not undershot; eyes small and dark; ears small and V-shaped, carried forward and dropping on the cheek; head long; skull flat, not bottle-shaped; powerful jaw, and good length from eye to nose. Neck fairly long, tapering and thickening into shoulders, and free from what is known as throatiness. Shoulders fine, and sloping nicely into the back, with deep narrow chest, and standing on straight legs and pasterns; good bone, and moderately small, round feet with dark nails. Body of a fair length, well-ribbed; straight back, slightly arched; powerful loin; hindquarters strong and muscular, with slightly bent stifles, and hocks near the ground,

and not cow-hocked. The tail, well-covered with rough hair, should be set on pretty high, and nicely carried. Coat hard, straight, and flat, free from curl and shagginess. Colour neither very light nor very dark; bright red and red wheaten being most preferred, without any admixture of other colours. The weight of the dog should not exceed 24 lbs., and of the bitch 22. A dog to come up to this standard must be on rather racy lines, full of life and go, possessed of plenty of substance but free from clumsiness, and presenting a very graceful appearance.

MR. F. M. JOWETT.—I am satisfied with type, but would like more attention paid to small, dark eyes, sound coats, and cleaner skulls. My idea of an "ideal" Irish terrier is: Head long; clean in cheek, with strong punishing jaws; flat skull; black nose; small, dark eyes; small V-shaped ears, set on pretty high, and carried close to the cheek. Neck rather long, and sloping well into the shoulders, which should be long and fine. Chest deep but narrow; body moderately long; loin firm and strong; tail set on rather high, and carried gaily; hindquarters strong and muscular; legs moderately long, and well covered with hard, wiry hair; plenty of bone; and round, compact feet. The coat should be yellow-red in colour, and very hard and wiry, straight and flat, and free from waviness or silkiness. Weight, 24 to 26 lbs. for dogs, and 22 to 24 lbs. for bitches. The general impression should be that of a keen, hard, wiry terrier, built on lines of speed, but at the same time with bone and substance; showing a graceful, racing outline; and being a rough and ready customer able to hold his own with anything his weight.

MR. R. M'MULLEN BOLSTER.—The modern type of Irish terrier is all right, but the diversity of opinion amongst judges is to be deplored. In the Irish Terrier Club's Standard of Points these points are laid down as "the correct card," but a judge gives his award, varying widely from some particular point. I have owned terriers of all breeds, and I boldly give the palm to the Irish terrier; as companions they cannot be beaten; their work is the river- or stream-side rat-hunting, or to help an otter-hound pack, or, when broken to it, weasel-hunting. In these occupations they cannot be surpassed.

MR. ARTHUR READE.—The trouble about type is that we have so many. Take three leading winners, and you will find that if one is right the other two must, logically, be wrong. Fortunately we have a lot of good bitches; half a dozen of them are real fliers. The Standard of Points is satisfactory, but sufficient attention is not paid to the mouth, dogs considerably over-

shot winning good prizes, and sometimes even slightly undershot specimens. A minus of 5 or even 10 points should be deducted for light eyes, which are often allowed to pass.

MR. G. GALLAHER.—More attention should be given by breeders to the texture of the coat, which should be long, hard, and of a perfect wheaten colour. The head of the present exhibit should be longer, with much more power in the foreface; the eyes should be much smaller and darker than a good many exhibitors are showing at the present time. Also more points should be allowed for carriage of ears, as a great many are far from correct.

Besides its sporting capabilities, the Irish terrier seems to be possessed of a wonderful ability to trace its master long distances, and learns to retrieve by the light of nature. Here are some examples:—

A friend of mine (writes Mr. Yarr), who was going to a fair some ten miles from his home to sell some cattle, started with the intention of leaving his terrier behind, but it followed his gig, unperceived, to the railway station, some two miles distant. There, being noticed, it was driven back, and hunted towards home. My friend took train to the next station, got out, and walked to the fair, where his cattle were amongst hundreds of others; and he was not long there when his terrier ran up, wagging its tail and exhibiting every symptom of delight. Whether he followed the rails, or how he found his way there, remained a mystery.

The Irish terrier (writes Mr. Reade) has a wonderful instinct to return long distances to its master. I myself have had three and a half months' old pups, sent out to walk at six miles distant, return home the next day, although they had never been out of the kennels or paddock before in their lives. Their natural instinct to retrieve is also very marked; my dogs are constantly bringing me, most carefully, various treasures they find and fancy will interest me—scraps of printed paper, bits of tin, etc. They are grand water-dogs, and I find it hard to keep them out of it when in sight. My favourite stud-dog will jump into the canal from any of the bridges, while both he and two of my bitches will dive after a rat, and kill it under water. This I have proved over and over again. They are able to swim at a good pace, and soon overhaul a rat in the water.

I once had a bitch (writes Mr. Jowett) that would kill cats as easily as rats, and was so well broken to ferrets that when the

rabbit bolted into the net with the ferret riding on the top of it, old *Maggie* (who could never resist having one nip while the rabbit was struggling in the net) was often seized by the ferret, and would come to me with the ferret hanging from her face to have it taken off. She would also mark partridges in a stubble field as true as any dog I ever saw, and retrieve the birds when shot; and would retrieve from water in the coldest weather.

I have hunted fox terriers, rough and smooth (writes Mr. M'Mullen Bolster), and they are keen—too keen. If two or three mark a rat to ground they fight for the point of vantage, enter into a deadly fight, lose all interest in the quarry, and when they are separated and set to work again, retain their animosity, and on the first opportunity are at one another's throats again. Not so an Irish terrier; I never knew a dog "keep in a spite" long, and they will work again after a shindy. Again, I never knew a fox terrier, wire or smooth, that could do more than about four hours' work at the outside, in and out of water; after that time the gamest begins to shiver and be miserable. An Irish terrier will give six or seven hours' water work, and look as well after it as when he began.

One correspondent does not recommend them for shooting, writing:—"I regret to state that, much as I love them, the Irish terriers are not much good with the gun. Their colour and the fact that they hunt mute in most cases make rabbiting, particularly in roots, a source of great danger to the dog. They are keen enough, and do their best to kill, but having had the misfortune to shoot a favourite, generally when I take my gun I leave my terriers behind."

The encomiums lavished on the Irish terrier as a breed are such as you might expect in connection with a dog that has established such a reputation for itself. To reduce them to a running paragraph: "I consider they are one of the best breeds of dogs, being very kind, very courageous, good companions, faithful, excellent with children, easily taught to retrieve, and can be made a very useful sporting dog."—"The Irish terrier is a true pal and friend; hardy and good tempered, but game if attacked. Very good for rough field-hunting and badgering."—"Excellent companions, vastly intelligent, and such good workers on vermin. Their

powers of endurance of cold and hardship are wonderful."—"Good tempered; can be taught to do anything; Irish in character."—"Irish terriers are a particularly hardy breed; can gallop very fast for their size; and owing to their colour do not ever appear dirty. The only fault I have to find with them is their extreme excitability, and, like most Irishmen, are too fond of a shindy."—"Such game, lively dogs, always ready for sport of any kind, land or water! I have used them for waterside hunting, marking rabbits in holes or walls, and some of them will point game like a pointer or setter, and will retrieve either fur or feather, though rather hard in the mouth."—"My particular delight is in the production and possession of a winning specimen, and I am fascinated with those that come up to my standard of excellence.—"I believe there is no breed of dog possessing more affection for its master. It is a dog that can almost be brought to know what is passing in one's mind, and its sagacity is marvellous."—"An ideal terrier, a keen sportsman, a good pal, and a grand water-dog. He can rough it, and still be happy and healthy, and as devoted to his master as if he enjoyed the best of everything."—"He should be termed the 'gentleman's pal.'"

There are a great number of specialist clubs engaged in fostering the breed of Irish terriers, but by far the most important is *The Irish Terrier Club*, of which Dr. Richard Carey is Honorary Secretary at headquarters, and Mr. G. Mayall the Honorary Secretary for England. The club is one of the oldest of similar institutions in existence, having been founded so far back as 1879, and the membership is 120. It appoints a score of judges, who adjudicate on the breed at all the chief shows. Financially, the club is in a wonderfully sound position, its last balance-sheet

showing nearly £150 to the good. It supported eighteen dog shows very liberally last year (1902), and its challenge plate includes two thirty-guinea cups and two ten-guinea cups, which are circulated in delightfully swift succession, each of the two former having been won five times in the same year, and the two latter twice as often. The entrance fee to the club is 10s., and the annual subscription £1.

The following is the description of the "true Irish terrier," as revised by the Irish Terrier Club in 1897:—

### STANDARD OF POINTS OF THE IRISH TERRIER

HEAD.—Long; skull flat and rather narrow between the ears, getting slightly narrower towards the eye; free from wrinkles; stop hardly visible except in profile. The jaw must be strong and muscular, and not too full in the cheek, and of a good punishing length. There should be a slight falling away below the eye, so as not to have a greyhound appearance. Hair on face of same description as on the body, but short (about a quarter of an inch long), in appearance almost smooth and straight; a slight beard is the only longish hair (and it is only long in comparison with the rest) that is permissible, and that is characteristic.

TEETH.—Should be strong and level.

LIPS.—Not so tight as a bull terrier's, but well fitting, showing through the hair their black lining.

NOSE.—Must be black.

EYES.—A dark, hazel colour; small, not prominent, and full of life, fire, and intelligence.

EARS.—Small and V-shaped, of moderate thickness, set well back on the head, and dropping forward closely to the cheek. The ear must be free of fringe, and the hair thereon shorter and darker in colour than the body.

NECK.—Should be of fair length, and gradually widening towards the shoulders, well carried and free of throatiness. There is generally a slight sort of frill visible at each side of the neck, running nearly to the corner of the ear.

SHOULDERS AND COAT.—Shoulders must be fine, long, and sloping well into back; the chest deep and muscular, but neither full nor wide.

BACK AND LOINS.—Body moderately long; back should be strong and straight, with no appearance of slackness behind the shoulders; the loin broad and powerful, and slightly arched; the ribs fairly sprung, rather deep than round, and well ribbed back.

HINDQUARTERS.—Should be strong and muscular, the thighs powerful, the hocks near the ground, the stifles moderately bent.

STERN.—Generally docked; should be free of fringe or feather, but

well covered with rough hair; set on pretty high; carried gaily, but not over the back, or curled.

FEET AND LEGS.—Feet should be strong, tolerably round, and moderately small; toes arched, and neither turned out nor in; black toe-nails most desirable. Legs moderately long, well set from the shoulders, perfectly straight, with plenty of bone and muscle; the elbows working freely, clear of the sides; pasterns short and straight, hardly noticeable. Both fore and hind legs should be moved straight forward when travelling, the stifles not turned outwards, the legs free of feather, and covered, like the head, with as hard a texture of coat as the body, but not so long.

COAT.—Hard and wiry, free of softness or silkiness; not so long as to hide the outlines of the body, particularly in the hindquarters; straight and flat, no shagginess, and free from lock or curl.

COLOUR.—Should be "whole-coloured," the most preferable being bright red, red wheaten, or yellow red. White sometimes appears on chest and feet; it is more objectionable on the latter than on the chest, as a speck of white on chest is frequently to be seen on all self-coloured breeds.

SIZE AND SYMMETRY.—The most desirable weight in show condition is—for a dog 24 lbs., and for a bitch 22 lbs. The dog must present an active, lively, lithe, and wiry appearance; lots of substance; at the same time free of clumsiness, as speed and endurance, as well as power, are very essential. They must be neither cloddy nor cobby, but should be framed on the lines of speed, showing a graceful racing outline.

TEMPERAMENT.—Dogs that are very game are usually surly or snappish. The Irish terrier, as a breed, is an exception, being remarkably good-tempered, notably so with mankind; it being admitted, however, that he is perhaps a little too ready to resent interference on the part of other dogs. There is a heedless, reckless pluck about the Irish terrier which is characteristic; and, coupled with the headlong dash, blind to all consequences, with which he rushes at his adversary, has earned for the breed the proud epithet of "the Dare-Devils." When off duty they are characterised by a quiet caress-inviting appearance; and when one sees them endearingly, timidly pushing their heads into their master's hands, it is difficult to realise that on occasions at the "set on" they can prove they have the courage of a lion, and will fight until the last breath in their bodies. They develop an extraordinary devotion to their masters, and have been known to track them almost incredible distances.

| POINT VALUES— | *Positive Points* |
|---|---|
| Head, ears, and expression | 20 |
| Legs and feet | 15 |
| Neck | 5 |
| Shoulders and chest | 10 |
| Back and loin | 5 |
| Hindquarters and stern | 10 |
| Coat | 15 |
| Colour | 10 |
| Size and symmetry | 10 |
| Total | 100 |

*Negative Points*

| | |
|---|---|
| White nails, toes, and feet | – 10 |
| Much white on chest | – 10 |
| Dark shadings on face | – 5 |
| Mouth undershot or cankered | – 10 |
| Coat shaggy, curly, or soft | – 10 |
| Uneven in colour | – 5 |
| Total | 50 |

There would seem to be a good deal of convergence of opinion as to the correct type of dog in this breed, for I have received the names of no less than eight dogs and eight bitches as being the most representative. The former, headed by *Mile End Muddler*, include *Bolton Woods Mixer*, *Bolton Woods Star*, *Straight Tip*, *Whetstone Ard Patrick*, *Celtic Tormentor*, and *Attic Demon*. The bitches, with *Bawn Beauty* coming first, include *Bawn Vixen*, *Beeston Beauty*, *Lady Dufferin*, *Beeston Belle*, *Celtic Belle*, *Hillford Daisy*, and *Charwoman*. From these I have had no difficulty in selecting Ch. *Mile End Muddler* as the subject of my illustration.

Ch. *Mile End Muddler* was bred by Mr. C. J. Barnett, by Ch. *Breda Muddler* ex *Burma*, and was born in June 1899. He is the property of Mr. Frank Clifton, who describes him as follows:—"A beautiful terrier, built on correct Irish terrier lines. He has a good length of head; perfect flat skull; good foreface; dark eyes, well placed; small V-shaped ears, correctly carried; good neck and shoulders; best of legs and feet; body, coat, and carriage of tail perfect. He is perfect in colour, being the much-desired golden-red; also correct in size, and full of Irish character. His weight is 26 lbs. He has won 18 championships and over 250 first and special prizes, and is the sire of innumerable winners, whom I have not got room to quote,—amongst them Ch. *Beeston Belle*."

## THE SCOTTISH TERRIER

SOMETHING of the distinctive, taciturn individuality of the kilted Highlander hangs about this Highland terrier, and the untrained eye can recognise the one as easily as the other at a glance, nor mistake either for types, human or canine, that flourish outside Caledonia stern and wild. There is a dry self-complacency, an uncompromising personality about the Die-hard that, in his normal state, are very characteristic of the self-respecting nation to which he belongs; but when you fire his blood, he displays the inextinguishable spirit of a Gordon going at the heights of Dargai, or routing Afghans from Kabul to Kandahar. The Scottish terrier is not as other dogs are. As he trots along inattentive, even a little superior to the frivolous world, you recognise in him a shrewd, canny character, cautious in his habit of making acquaintances, prudent in the disposition of his attentions, and perfectly satisfied to mind his own business. Not his to trail the tail of his coat along the ground, and whistle for a fighting wind; but if you tread on his toes, you shall not do so with impunity, and by the time he has done with you there will remain a conviction he possesses larger teeth than any of his size, and a jaw as punishing as the best, or worst, of his tribe.

SCOTTISH TERRIER.

*Ch.* HEWORTH RASCAL.

PLATE XXXV.

I have heard said he is proud; I have even heard it asserted he is perky. He may be; but to my eyes it is his self-sufficiency that is attractive, and his delightful deliberation. Terrier though he be, he never appears in a hurry. In this respect I would liken him to the St. Bernard. At times, like his master, he can be merry, though cast in a sober mould. It is a restrained merriment that does not yap, and bark, and sprint around, but indicates delight subdued with a proper sense of dignity. So have I seen highly respectable Scotsmen on St. Andrew's Night. Indeed, in temperament he is a Scot of Scots, especially in his shyness outside his native haunts. It requires his foot to be on his native heath for his name to be Macgregor! For the rest, he is a very wise, determined, dry, unostentatious, brave little fellow, and has come to be loved as much as any terrier in this book.

His dignity, to which I have referred, may be due to his antiquity. Mr. Rawdon Lee believes him to be the oldest unit of the canine race indigenous to North Britain. This, as terrier ancestry goes, is a high certificate from a high authority, and should make him proud. But it has been his misfortune to be muddled up with other clans, which introduces an element of uncertainty into his past. For years he was called the "Skye" terrier, which he is not, in our acceptation of the term. When you read of Skyes in old writers it is just as likely as not that the allusion is to Die-hards. One analyser would ally this essentially Highland species to the essentially lowland Dandie Dinmont, which is clearly preposterous. Then again the Scottish terrier has borne the burden of many names before being settled with his present one. He was known at different times and indifferently as the Skye (Dalziel illustrates a member of his family as such), the High-

land terrier, the Cairn terrier, the Broken-haired terrier, and the Aberdeen terrier. Also as the Scots and Scotch terrier, and, affectionately as the Die-hard—a noble title bestowed on him by the first Earl of Dumbarton, and subsequently transferred to the First Royal Scots. Die-hards and Dare-Devils—such are the names which the terrier tribes of the sister kingdoms have given us. Who could wish for better fighting sobriquets? What grander regimental nicknames do you want than these? The spirit of the two nations speaks eloquently through the nomenclature of their respective terriers.

Whilst the pedigree of the Scottish terrier does not run very far back on paper, it extends into a dim past in tradition. Pedigree-dogs were purely a later Victorian product, and their records mostly issue from the ark of the dog show established in the 'Sixties. This particular terrier was used, as one of its names implies, to bolt foxes from the cairns, or stone and boulder encumbered sides of the Scotch hills—a work hedged with limitations, for a way is not to be scratched through granite crevices. For percolating such obstacles a long, low dog was necessary, and one possessing singular strength and hardiness. All of these qualities are to be found in the Scottish terrier in a marked degree. In a country where the conformation of the surface made hunting with hounds impossible, and where foxes and other destructive vermin played havoc, there was called into useful and necessary being a race of vermin destroyers, known as tod- or fox-hunters, whose livelihood depended on their success in the chase of their quarry, and whose success depended on the staunchness and ability of their terriers. Hence, even in those rude times, a rude process of selection took place in the breeding of the dogs, and that process

stamped the Scottish terrier with the sturdy characteristics he displays to-day.

There were several strains of this working terrier in Scotland. Dalziel recalls one he knew as a boy, "the old, hard, and short-haired 'Terry' of the west of Scotland, much like a modern fox terrier in shape, but with a shorter, rounder head, the colour of his hard, wiry coat mostly sandy, the face free from long hair, although some showing a beard, and the small ears carried in some instances semi-erect, in some pricked." I have no doubt some of that type of terrier blood filtered into the north of Ireland, where it is known that at one time dogs were imported from across the water. But it was from other strains that the Die-hard is descended. Three are particularly mentioned by Mr. Gordon Murray in his *Dogs of Scotland* — the Mogstads, the Drynocks, and the Camusennaries—types with long, low bodies, dark wiry hair, and generally prick-eared. Only two of our British sporting dogs sport the prick ear, and they both come from Scotland: the Skye (in one variety) and the Scottish. The prick ear is one of the most distinctive hereditary traits in the canine group, and is confined to families which favour the wolf or wild-dog in conformation of the head, being allied to a pointed muzzle; its occurrence in the French bulldog is a triumph of aural over facial conformation. However, this is a departure from my subject. What I desired to point out was the important proof the prick ear supplies in tracing descent. The strains I have quoted were all prick-eared, and the latter was fostered by a Lieutenant Macmillan, one of the earliest fanciers, if not the earliest, of this breed on record.

In later years came Captain Mackie, the pioneer of the modern breed, who possessed a splendid kennel of the terriers, in getting together which he searched the

Western Highlands and the Hebrides for specimens, as well as for information. In those days the terriers were rare, and even at a much later date an American fancier, Mr. John Naylor, observes that he "had to traverse the entire Highlands in his search for good specimens" to improve his kennels. But within the last few years, in the hands of the fostering fancier, the Scottish terrier has greatly increased in numbers, for, once give a dog a good name, and bring it into vogue, and the supply quickly creeps up to the demand. The collie, the Great Dane, the black pug, and the toy Pomeranian have proved this in the past, and I have no doubt the Brussels Griffon, the Pekinese spaniel, and the toy bulldog will do so in the future. Moreover, where Nature fails, art may come to the rescue in some manufactured breeds. Dalziel lays us on the track for harlequin terriers.

The modern history of the Scottish terrier dates from the year 1874, which is just about the time that his cousin, the Dare-Devil, began to hustle. It originated in a newspaper controversy, which drew attention to the breed; but when, in the following year, classes were offered for it, they failed to fill. Four years later a club was formed to promote its interests, and a class given at the Alexandra Palace Show. Dundee and Birmingham followed suit, not altogether successfully, and Messrs. Ludlow and Blomfield, of Norwich, took up the cult, and greatly helped to popularise it. By the middle of the 'Eighties the breed was fairly on its legs, and that decade saw Captain Mackie's *Dundee* and *Glengogo* introduced to the benches on which they made themselves famous. The former survived till 1895, when he died at a good old age, having done an immense amount of winning, and left his mark well stamped behind him. Mr. Rawdon Lee considers him

"about as good a type of his race as any we have had." He was a dog that would be considered too weighty now, being well over 20 lbs., but his height was only 10 inches at the shoulder.

A great divergence of opinion still exists whether the legs of the Scottish terrier ought to be straight or crooked. The Rev. G. Laurie Fogo considers that with a straight front he sinks part of his individuality to assume the smart appearance of the English type of terrier, and maintains that "the craze for an absolutely straight front is a mistake." On the other hand, Mr. Ludlow is all in favour of straight legs, and denounces "inherited deformities." The prick ears, or rather their size and set, also form matter for disquisition; they should be small, well set up and close together. "What the high cheek-bone is to the Scotsman," says Mr. Fogo, "that a moderately sized ear is to his terrier." Time was when there were bat ears, but these are now, happily, rapidly disappearing.

In an article in the *Hants Canine Quarterly*, Mr. Fogo writes: "The progress that has been made in establishing the type is very remarkable. It is as gratifying as it is striking. Faults and blemishes have been eliminated with an unsparing hand, and all the best features of the breed have been fostered with a judicious and discriminating zeal. The long head, the powerful muzzle, the level mouth, the erect and pointed ears, the straight front, the short, well-carried tail, the deep and rather wide chest, the compact, substantial, well-ribbed body, the short, thick neck, and the necessity of having a terrier that stands near the ground,—all these points are now understood. Something has to be done still towards restoring the small, piercing eye, and the varminty expression which are such typical features in the true Scottish terrier."

**Which brings me to other opinions, and I will proceed to give those that have reached me :—**

MR. J. N. REYNARD.—I am not satisfied with type; it is becoming submerged into the general type of show terrier. More attention should be paid to the Club's Standard of Points. And special attention directed to eyes, which should be piercing, very bright and rather sunken; chest, broad in comparison to the size of the dog, and very deep; body, of *moderate* length, a majority of the present-day dogs being too short; coat, intensely hard, harsh and wiry to the feel; and feet, strong, thick, and to the big side. Thin, flat feet are an abomination. A great number of the present show-dogs display signs of great nervousness, or a want of pluck. This is caused, I think, by the amount of in-breeding. All this sort should be banned as entirely foreign to the hardy, little Die-hard.

MR. W. L. M'CANDLISH (Hon. Sec. Scottish Terrier Club of England).—I am not satisfied with the type of the breed as it exists to-day, and this, in my opinion, is caused by placing too much importance on straight legs. Present-day dogs do not, as a rule, appear sufficiently let down in body owing to the same cause. The Scottish terrier is above all things a heavily-built, short-legged dog, of great strength for his size, and I have yet to see a heavily-boned specimen standing low to the ground with dead straight pasterns, and question if I ever shall. If such a dog were produced he would in all probability look more like a wooden dog than an active terrier. I do not desire turned-out feet, or dogs out at shoulder, nor weak pasterns, but a dead straight front, lowness to ground and activity are not to be had in combination—at least proof of it has yet to be produced. Nor is present-day expression right; the small, bright, slightly sunken eye is getting far too uncommon, and most of the prize-winning dogs are too round and full in eye, thus losing one of the charms of the breed—a bright, keen, knowing expression. The majority of Scottish terriers can be traced back in all directions to *Splinter II.* and *Bon Accord*, as the two great sires of ten years ago were inbred to this pair. More recently *Heather Prince's* name occurs with great frequency in pedigrees, while in current history *Seafield Rascal*, assisted by his sons and daughters, seems likely to make his sire *Seafield* a commonly recurring name in future pedigrees. It is thus impossible to avoid in-breeding to a considerable extent, and in certain strains the effect can be traced in an undue tendency to nervousness. This

I do not put down to in-breeding itself, but to in-breeding from improper stock, as many of the progenitors of the affected strain are highly nervous. Whatever the cause, breeders nowadays must be most careful to select, for continued in-breeding, only such animals as show no sign of physical or mental defect. It is no easy task to breed good Scottish terriers, and from the best of parents puppies of all sorts come. This I consider due, to a large extent, to the antiquity of the breed, the weight of ancestry, bred anyhow, swamping the good qualities of the immediate parents. Judicious in-breeding from selected terriers, with pronounced excellence in the commonly failing features, will in course of time remedy this. To preserve the characteristics of the Scottish terrier it is important he should not be confounded as to type with any of the long-legged terriers. His shoulder formation is, for one thing, absolutely distinct. He should be broad in the chest, or I may be less misunderstood if I say he should not be narrow-chested. His shoulder formation is as nearly as much akin to a bulldog's as to a fox terrier's. He should not be swung between his legs, nor appear to be placed on them, and the best description I can give is that he should appear to be swung on the top of his legs. If we consider that he is a low-built dog, with good spring of ribs, and deep-chested, he must possess a certain width of chest; and if we are to get an active dog on short legs, the shoulders must have free movement to avoid stilted action.

MRS. W. B. HANNAY.—I am quite satisfied with the type, if it is adhered to, and too big specimens not encouraged. I do hope the craze for length of head is not going to be allowed to spoil these most delightful of all terriers. Fair length of head is most desirable, but we do not want exaggeration of any one point, I think, or their all-round staunchness will be lost sight of.

MR. J. D. BROWN.—I am quite satisfied with type. The Scottie of to-day is a rare, short-backed, deep-chested little chap. His worst modern failing is a tendency to soft coat, but it is being bred out, though it takes time of course. In the point values a little more might be attached to head and eyes, two such vital points in any terrier, and particularly in a Scot.

MRS. H. ST. JOHN CLARKE.—The proper type (which exists only in a few to-day) is excellent; but there is a very great tendency to sacrifice true expression for length of head. Light eyes are greatly on the increase, and in many cases the eyes are full, instead of the proper dark, pig-shaped eye. Expression

should be everything in a terrier. If a terrier has not the proper expression, to my mind he is not a terrier at all. Why has a mole shoulders and feet turned out? Surely the Creator was a better judge of what is more useful to a dog than the present-day exhibitor? I consider that the Scottish terrier is the survival of the fittest kind for going down cairns; hence his crooked legs. Now we bring him South and try to give him straight legs, which, as Euclid has it, is absurd.

MRS. E. M. THOMPSON.—I am not quite satisfied with type. The development of the head outweighs with breeders the value of the cobby bodies, short legs and Scottie characteristics, which should be essential to any winning Scottish terrier. More attention should be devoted to these characteristics and less to length of head.

MR. H. R. B. TWEED.—The rage for straight fronts is giving us a leggy animal, light of bone, and quite at variance with the cart-horse stamp which is characteristic of the breed. English breeders are getting them too fine in coat too.

MR. WALTER S. GLYNN.—I am quite satisfied with type, though I think a shorter back would improve many. It always strikes me that too much importance is given to head and ears in this breed. I grant that a correct head, and especially, correct and properly carried ears are very great characteristics; but I am afraid a beautiful head and ears have before now, over and over again, carried a bad dog to victory. I have had somewhat weighty confirmation of this, watching many judges of the variety officiating in the ring, and though some of them do move their dogs, the majority never seek to do so, but stand gazing at the nearest part of the terrier to them; and, of course, if the terrier happens to have a good head and ears, you will find that is the part that is nearest the judge.

MR. A. G. DIPPIE.—The type is much nearer the standard to-day than it was ten years ago. The Scottish terrier has come to stay, and to-day the demand for good specimens is very great. Even the moderate specimens, especially dogs, are in great demand as companions. Disputed points are few, and generally due to putting on inexperienced judges at shows.

MR. B. W. POWLET.—The type has certainly improved, but what the Scottish terrier is in great danger of is being merged into the fox-terrier group. At so many shows they come under a fox, Irish, or Welsh terrier judge, who has in his eye those narrow, dead, straight fronts, which are utterly foreign to the S.T. We want a low, cloddy, heavy-boned dog, with his body

hung on his legs, not placed on the top of them as in a fox terrier. The type is entirely different, and many of us are awaking to the fact that we must stir ourselves to retain the charming individuality of the Die-hard. The type, though generally improved, is in danger. Fanciers get hold of phrases, such as "long, lean skull, with punishing jaws," which means long jaws. That is all right in moderation, but one fancier goes one better than the other, and so the point gets exaggerated. This is one of the leading crazes of all fanciers in every variety, and there is a danger of it in ours. But I think the most dangerous fad is the craze for short bodies, and, as usual, this has got to mean, not a naturally short body, but an excessively short one, which spoils the terrier's action. Scottish terriers are often shown very fat, to make them appear short, and it passes muster. A long-headed dog is usually long in body; a long-on-the-leg, heavy-boned dog is usually not straight in front. Now for a perfect terrier we want a longish head on a short body, standing on short, heavy, bowed legs. Straight, short fronts are very hard to get, but let a dog go up an inch or two, and it is much easier; and breeders are getting impatient, apparently, and seem inclined to sacrifice length of leg to straightness of front, and are encouraged by judges who are often fox or Irish terrier men. The Scottie has always been a low dog, and of necessity, for in old days he was only kept to follow the fox, otter, etc., into cairns, where none but a powerful, low dog could have got in. We must not forget the old uses of the breed in these modern days. In Scotland no notice is taken of crooked legs; in England we like them straight. Of course it is very difficult to get a low, heavy-boned dog with straight legs. But we must try and bring about uniformity of standard of type in England and Scotland.

MR. CHARLES WRIGHT.—I think we require to aim at a smaller type of dog than that being bred to-day. Colour and size should be awarded more points.

MR. JOHN D. MALCOLM.—The difficulty is to know what is the type of dog as it exists to-day! Snipey jaws get prizes, and strong, square jaws also win. Presumably both are being bred from, but as long as the correct one is not settled the type cannot be said to be definitely fixed.

MR. MILNER.—The type is right, barring size, and the necessity of keeping the round eye down. I notice several Scottish terrier judges are going for long-headed dogs, but which are pounds above the club standard of weight. This wants

checking; or let us show any weight, or deduct so many points per lb. overweight.

Recommendations of the Die-hard run as follows :— "He is an admirable house-dog, and his short legs prevent him from being 'all over the place,' and he is a capital dog to shoot rabbits over in a rough country. He will face any cover, and his want of pace in the open prevents him from entering into rivalry with the gun, should he break cover at the scut of a rabbit. His great charm lies, however, in his truly philosophical disposition, his quick common sense, and his affectionate nature, though only exhibited when the active affairs of the world do not engage his attention. A keen dog and a kindly dog, a devotee of the chase and country pursuits, but withal the polished gentleman in the drawing-room."—"There is no terrier like them for general utility; they are fit for anything which a terrier should be asked to do. They are essentially a 'one-dog' man's dog, knowing their master and no other." —"Merry little sportsmen; capital company; always attaching themselves particularly to the one person of their affections."—"As a workman always ready; never knows when he is tired; can hunt and kill anything his own size and weight; wise as an old man; made like a little cob; faithful ever, even unto death. Scotch in his ways, *i.e.* he must know you first; but when he gives his heart he gives it for life. The best children's dog and companion; easily taught any amount of tricks; not jealous with other dogs; hardy in constitution and handy in size. As a house-dog, to my mind, with his sad, serious, yet keen and inquiring expression, a rare mixture of the grave and gay. An ideal terrier —always a gentleman and a Scotsman."—"I prefer Scottish terriers to any other breed because though a sportsman to the tip of his tail, he is obedient, tractable,

WHITE SCOTTISH TERRIER.

PITTENWEEM MAC.

PLATE XXXVI.

particularly intelligent, keen and most faithful."—"The 'soul' is more highly developed in this dog than in any other breed I have ever owned. His personality is very strong. For all round sport unsurpassable. He is distinctly self-assertive, and will brook no interference from any dog from a mastiff downwards."—"An ideal pal; clean in the house; only knows his immediate boss."—"Any one who has had a smart Scottie will have no other dog. They are faithful, most affectionate, good with children, game, yet not snappy. Splendid noses, and not being leggy, hunt slowly, and are excellent for rabbiting."

Although the Scottish terrier is generally a dark dog there is a white variety, and a white one is occasionally produced in a litter of the more orthodox colour begotten of dark parents. Although these may be "sports" in individual cases, the variety itself is an old one, and the Scottish terriers which Landseer has left on record in his pictures, "The Highland Dogs," "Dignity and Impudence," and "Macaw, Lovebirds, and Puppies," were white Scotties. From this fact Dr. Flaxman, an enthusiastic fancier of the variety, deduces the opinion that white was the typical colour of the terrier seventy years ago. The Doctor has taken up the cult with great earnestness, and writes: "I am trying to breed them smaller, with longer heads and larger muzzles. My delight would be to produce a white Scottish terrier which would beat any modern dark-coloured dog of that variety on the bench. I have derived endless pleasure in trying to save from extinction this old branch of the plucky breed." Lady Forbes is another fancier who has devoted her time to the cult of the white Scottie; she is not quite satisfied with the type as it exists, thinking them inclined to be rather weak about the jaw, compared to their dark

brothers; and they should be whiter if possible, with harder coats. I am glad to be able to give an illustration of one of Dr. Flaxman's famous strain of these dogs, and to supplement it with his "ideal" as follows:—

The ideal white Scottish terrier should be a pure white, rough-coated little dog, weighing about 18 lbs., with a black nose, and small, dark, piercing eyes. He should have an anxious look about him, giving you the impression that he is a "big little 'un" —a sort of miniature cart-horse, looking for something to kill! His movements will soon show you that he is as active as a kitten, in spite of his compact form. I have found in breeding these dogs that the cobby and compact ones are more difficult to confine to their runs than the long-bellied, slackly-made-up ones, on account of their jumping and climbing propensities. The ideal terrier should have a cobby, compact, short-coupled body, and short, straight, thick fore legs. The hindquarters should be very muscular, with hocks well let down to the ground, not turned in or out. The body should be well rounded in front, in loin and in hindquarters. The chest should be deep. The head large and long in comparison with the size of the body; nothing less than 8 inches in length would satisfy me. The muzzle should be deep from above downwards, and carry a good broad nose. Open his mouth and there are teeth as large and strong as a collie's, the front ones meeting like the lips of a vice. A terrier with plenty of substance in front of the eyes always has larger teeth than the snipey, short-faced specimens. The ears should be small, pointed, erect, and carried close together, without any fringe at the margins or points. The eyes should be dark, small, and piercing. The tail, an important organ, should not be long, but carried with a slight curve upwards, never over the back. The coat is also a most important point of a white Scottish terrier, and when handled should give you the impression that you are touching a very bristly garment. This is the outer part of the thatch. If you now stroke the coat the wrong way, you will find at the bottom of this coat a soft, woolly under part, not so long as the outer. Take the little fellow up in both hands, lift him by the middle, and you will say to yourself, "What a lot in a small compass!"

Before closing this section I must find room for two anecdotes which I have received. "The strength of

character and will of Scottish terriers," writes Mrs. Thompson, "also their personal magnetism, are illustrated by a fact which took place a short time ago in my kennels. A Scottie was found eating a pigeon on two successive occasions, and in order to find out how he came into possession of the bird, the dog was watched. It was then discovered that when a neighbour's pigeon alighted on the wall of the garden in which the terrier lived, the dog sat down and fixed the pigeon with his eye. He apparently exerted a magnetic effect, for the bird did not move, and the fascination was such that after an interval of between seven and ten minutes, the pigeon rolled off the wall, as if insensible, when the terrier picked it up as his legitimate prey! Had this occurrence not taken place to my personal knowledge I should not venture to relate it; for to a person unacquainted with dogs the incident would appear incredible."

Mr. Tweed has this pathetic little story to tell of an old favourite. "Once I lost two of my Scotties for three days, when, by chance, walking along the bank of an old sunk lane, filled with bushes, and used as a rabbit warren, I heard a faint bark under my feet. After a vigorous dig both terriers were unearthed, rather weak of course, but otherwise none the worse for their imprisonment. They had gone to ground in a rabbit burrow, and scratched so much earth behind them that they could not get out. One of these lived for many years afterwards. When in his dotage he took a fancy to a friend's house, three miles away, where there were more rabbits. But he came home to die at last. For I found him one morning, stiff and covered with hoar-frost, in the flower-bed under the low window which had always been his favourite basking-place."

There are three specialist clubs devoted to the Scottish terrier: The *Scottish Terrier Club* (of Scotland) was founded in 1888, and the Honorary Secretary is Mr. J. N. Reynard; the entrance fee and annual subscription are each half a guinea. The *London Scottish Terrier Club*, of which Mr. Harold Wood is Honorary Secretary, is a very flourishing institution with a large membership. The entrance fee is half a guinea, and the annual subscription a guinea. It possesses two valuable challenge cups, and supports all shows under Kennel Club rules or license. The *Scottish Terrier Club of England*, founded in 1887, does not give a list of members in its publication. The annual subscription is one guinea; it possesses two challenge cups, which are each offered for competition three times annually, and the Honorary Secretary is Mr. W. L. M'Candlish.

STANDARD OF POINTS OF THE SCOTTISH TERRIER

SKULL.—Proportionately long, slightly domed, and covered with short, hard hair, about three-quarters of an inch long or less. It should not be quite flat, as there should be a sort of drop or stop between the eyes.

MUZZLE.—Very powerful and gradually tapering towards the nose, which should always be black, and of a good size. The jaws should be perfectly level, and the teeth square, though the nose projects somewhat over the mouth, which gives the impression of the upper jaw being longer than the under one.

EYES.—Set wide apart, of a dark hazel colour; small, piercing, very bright, and rather sunken.

EARS.—Very small, prick or half prick, but never drop. They should always be sharp pointed, the hair on them should not be long, but velvety; and they should not be cut. The ears should be free from any fringe on the top.

NECK.—Short, thick, and muscular; strongly set on sloping shoulders.

CHEST.—Broad in comparison to the size of the dog, and proportionately deep.

BODY.—Of moderate length, not so long as a Skye's, and rather flat-sided, but well ribbed up, and exceedingly strong in hindquarters.

LEGS AND FEET.—Both fore and hind legs should be short, but very heavy in bone; the former being straight or slightly bent, and well set under the body, as the Scottish terrier should not be out at elbow. The hocks should be bent, and the thighs very muscular; the feet strong and thickly covered with short hair; the fore feet being larger than the hind ones, and well let down on the ground.

TAIL (which is never cut) should be about 7 inches long, carried with a slight bend, and often gaily.

COAT.—Should be rather short, about 2 inches, intensely hard and wiry in texture, and very dense all over the body.

COLOURS.—Steel or iron-grey, brindled or grizzled black, sandy and wheaten. White markings are objectionable, and can only be allowed on the chest, and that to a small extent.

GENERAL APPEARANCE.—The face should wear a very sharp, bright, active expression, and the head should be carried up. The dog (owing to the shortness of its coat) should appear to be higher on the leg than it really is, but at the same time should look compact, and be possessed of great muscle in the hindquarters. In fact a Scottish terrier, though essentially a terrier, cannot be too powerfully put together. He should be from 9 to 12 inches in height.

FAULTS.—Muzzle either over or under hung; eyes large or light coloured; ears large, round at the points or drop. It is also a fault if they are too heavily covered with hair; coat, any silkiness, wave or tendency to curl is a serious blemish, as is also an open coat; size, any specimen over 20 lbs. should not be encouraged.

POINT VALUES—

| | |
|---|---|
| Skull | 5 |
| Muzzle | 5 |
| Eyes | 5 |
| Ears | 10 |
| Neck | 5 |
| Chest | 5 |
| Body | 15 |
| Legs and feet | 10 |
| Tail | 2½ |
| Coat | 15 |
| Size | 10 |
| Colour | 2½ |
| General appearance | 10 |
| Total | 100 |

*Note.*—The Scottish Terrier Club of England allows only 5 points for ears, and increases those for skull and muzzle to 7½ points each. Otherwise the points are practically the same.

The names of a great number of dogs have been sent in to me as representing the most typical in the breed, and from these the following champions stand out:—*Heworth Rascal*, *Heather Rocket*, *Heworth Prince*, *Heather Bob*, *Hyndman Thistle*, and *Sunray*. From these I have selected the first two. In the

white variety there are *Pittenween Mac* and *Sheila*, and *Erskine Cheeky* and *Fair Maid*, and I have selected the first.

Ch. *Heworth Rascal*, the property of Mrs. B. M. Hannay, was bred by Mr. A. Kinnear, by *Seafield Rascal* ex *Seafield Rosie*, and born in December 1899. He is a dark brindle dog, weighing 21 lbs., with a short compact body, and standing on perfect legs and feet. He is low to the ground, has beautiful shoulders, and possesses a head of rare quality. He has also a keen terrier expression, ears and tail perfectly carried, and a hard dense coat. His eye is hazel, which in so dark a dog gives the impression of being brighter than it is. *Rascal* has won 15 championships and over 100 first and special prizes, including the challenge trophy of Scotland four years in succession—the first time when he was only ten months old. Also the English challenge trophy. He is the sire of many winning Scottish terriers.

Ch. *Heather Rocket* belongs to Mrs. Sidney Thompson, and was bred by Mr. Robert Chapman, by Ch. *Heather Bob* ex *Kempoch Carrie*, and born in December 1900. Her height at shoulder is 10½ inches, she weighs 18 lbs., and her colour is a dark brindle. In type she is a little cart-horse, sturdy, with great muscle and powerfully put together. Wonderfully heavy in bone, with perfectly straight front, and low to the ground. Her ears are small and held like darts; her tail is carried gaily; coat like pin-wire in texture, and eyes keen and varminty, whilst she is pre-eminent in sharp, active expression and terrier character. She is the winner of 4 championships, and over 50 prizes at the leading shows.

*Pittenween Mac* was bred and is owned by Dr. Flaxman, his sire being *P. Worthy* and his dam *P. Witch;* and he was whelped in April 1902. His height is 9 inches, weight 18 lbs., and his colour pure white. He has a good coat, dark nose and eyes, cobby body, and carries his tail as a good terrier should. A capital set of teeth, straight front legs, with plenty of bone; very active and strong, always in good trim, with hard muscle, and especially well developed in the hindquarters. His merits cannot be fully assessed by his wins, as he has had but few opportunities of exhibiting himself, but he carried off a gold medal and two firsts in novice and open at the Scottish Kennel Club's Show in 1902.

*E. & C. Eddison, photo.*

PRICK-EARED SKYE TERRIER.

*Ch.* WOLVERLEY CHUMMIE.

*G. Morgan, photo.*

DROP-EARED SKYE TERRIERS.

LASSIKEN and TARLAND TIT.

## THE SKYE TERRIER

WHAT King Charles's head was to a certain memorial mentioned in *David Copperfield*, that the name of Dr. Caius is to a dog-book—it cannot be kept out of it. With every desire to let Dr. Caius and his celebrated work on *Englishe Dogges* remain, if possible, unquoted, I find myself frequently compelled to follow the example of every single dog-book whose pages I have turned over. The learned Doctor, who composed and wrote in the Latin tongue, came to be translated into English in the year 1576, and his book was for sale "over against St. Sepulchre's Church, without Newgate." Incidentally it occurs to me that, as I write, Newgate is being pulled down and carted away, and will soon be as extinct as the Dodo, or the native of Tasmania, or elastic-side boots; but Dr. Caius, his book lives; has within recent years been republished by Mr. Upcott Gill, and will doubtless continue to live (and help authors to live) for all time, or until Volopuk becomes the universal language of the hemisphere. It is a pleasing illustration of the immortality of this species of literature, and the mutability of Holborn Hill and the historic stones of Newgate. Little did Dr. Caius think—but there! I did not lug him in to moralise about him, but to quote what he wrote about terriers.

Thus of one variety he said that it "hunteth the foxe and the badger or greye onely, whom we call Terrars (Terriers) because they (after the manner and custome of ferrets in searching for connyes) creep into the grounde, and by that meanes make afrayde, nyppe, and bite the foxe and badger in such sorte that eyther they teare them in pieces with theyr teeth, beying in the bosome of the earth, or else hayle and pull them perforce out of theyr lurking angles, darke dongeons, or close caves; or at least thro' cosened feare drive them out of theyr hollow harbours, in so much that they are compelled to prepare speedie flyte, and, being desirous of the next (albeit not the safest) refuge, are otherwise taken and intrapped with snayres and nettes layde over the holes to the same purpose."

Of another variety, which is more to the purpose of this section, he wrote, "They were brought out of barbarous borders from the uttermost countryes northwards, and by reason of the length of theyr haire make show neither of face nor body. And yet these curres, forsooth, because they are so straunge, are greatly set by, esteemed, taken up, and mayde of, in room of the Spaniell gentle or comforter." And this sort of terrier has been eagerly recognised and joyfully accepted by modern Skye-terrier fanciers as the ancestor of their favourites.

Certain it is that the description fits like a glove; and we find history repeating itself, for the modern show Skye has become a ladies' companion-dog to a great extent. And although he is classified as a sporting-dog—a dignity of occupation denied to the Great Dane—his toilette takes as much trouble as his mistress's, his train is as long, and you can as little associate him with badgering and tod-hunting as you can a French bulldog with bull-baiting!

Another interesting legend in the past history of the Skye terrier, and regarded by some as a landmark, relates to the days of the Spanish Armada, and the wrecking of sundry of its ships on the rocky coasts of the Hebrides. From these escaped ashore long-haired dogs,—poodles of sorts according to some authorities, Maltese dogs according to others,—and from an out-cross between them and the terriers of the islands, the modern strain of Skye is supposed to have derived its long coat, and, incidentally, the depressed ear that is to be found in one variety.

I give the two theories for what they are worth. And if you would have expert criticism, Mr. Rawdon Lee is pretty well certain that the hardy, war-like Scots never condescended to fancy any species of dogs that had not a use, and so disposes of the lapdog theory of Dr. Caius; and doubts the canine castaway story of the Armada addition to its pedigree. Dalziel, on the other hand, points out that Caius described the long-haired terrier long before the Spanish Armada was thought of, and alludes to the "hypothetical foreign curs" with a characteristic contempt. And with that I leave the reader to form his own conclusions.

Coming to more modern times we find much evidence of the Skye terrier having been carefully preserved by various Scotch magnates. Richardson mentions the long-haired terrier of Scotland as found in great perfection in the western isles of Scotland, and particlarly in the Isle of Skye. It was there that Lord Macdonald lived, at Armadale, "and was possessed" (says the Rev. J. Cumming Macdonald) "of an extraordinary handsome strain of Skye terriers, descended from a cross of some Spanish white dogs that were wrecked on the island at the time when the Spanish

Armada lost so many ships on the western coast. Great care appears to have been taken to keep this particular strain pure and distinct from the breed common in the island." The Laird of Waternish, on the same island, had a famous pack. The island of Mull was also a stronghold of the breed, and specimens were taken from there to the Duke of Argyll's estate at Inveraray and at Roseneath, and the strains made famous. And similar terriers were kept by the late Lord Stair at Bergamy, the Malcolms at Poltalloch, the Mackinnons at Cory, and the Camerons at Lochiel. Two of these strains, the Roseneath and the Poltalloch, have come to be regarded as distinct, and the Scottish Kennel Club provides classes for them at its annual show, and obtained about ten entries in 1903.

From the Argyll strain a specimen was given to Her late Majesty Queen Victoria about 1850, and she contracted a great partiality for the breed, owning several fine specimens subsequently, which no doubt helped to popularise it. At any rate, when the Kennel Club came into existence Skye terriers were amongst the original breeds that found registration in its first Stud Book, and there were as many as fifty entries of the variety at one of the earliest dog shows held in the 'Sixties.

Few breeds have more enthusiastic admirers than the Skye, and no breed issues a more enthusiastic club booklet than the Skye Terrier Club of Scotland. Here is something it is a pleasure to read, for of all the dreary literature I have ever waded through the specialist club publications are the dreariest! But the mere cover of the Skye Club's pamphlet sets you sitting up. First of all it is called a "Manifesto," which invests it with an air of challenge. Then it

plunges into classics, and gives us a quotation from Virgil as its motto, *Sic itur ad astra.* Thus is accomplished the ascent to the stars! As specialist dog-club books go, I am quite willing to allow that claim to immortal fame to this one. Then the eye is focussed on a charming representation of the head of a Skye terrier, above and below which the two words "pure" and "true" look a little too like the commendation on a packet of cocoa, but this unhallowed suggestion is swept away when we come to further read, *Fortis, fidelis, sagax, dignus, dilectus!* Who could resist that catalogue of virtues? Who could fail to be attracted by such a manifesto? It is something quite new and original in specialist club literature.

The inside is as good as the out, in proof of which I give the following extract from its pages describing the terrier it so admirably champions:—

The Skye terrier takes his name from the chief of those north-western islands of Scotland that, so far back as his history can be traced, formed his native home, and in which he was "found in greatest perfection." Upwards of three centuries ago the unmistakable description of him was given by a writer on *Englishe Dogges* as a cur "brought out of barbarous borders fro' the uttermost countryes northward . . . which by reason of the length of heare makes showe neither of face nor of bodie." Subsequent authors refer as distinctly to him, and describe him as *the* terrier of those islands, having "long, lank hair, trailing almost to the ground." Such evidence gives him an exclusive and indefensible right to the designation which he bears. He is the only terrier distinctively belonging to the north-western islands that is not common to the whole of Scotland. That he has been extensively displaced there and elsewhere there can be no question, though no better reason can be assigned for this than that "ilk dog has a day"; or that, though others are no better and much less attractive, a charm has been thrown around him by a wizard's wand. Yet it is believed by those who have the best practical knowledge of him that the Skye has no compeer in his own peculiar domain. Wherever there are rocks, dens, burrows, cairns, or covers to explore, or waters to take to, his services

should be called into requisition. The smallest of all the useful terrier tribe, the lowest set, the longest in the body, the strongest proportionately in legs, feet, jaws, and chest, the most muscular and flexible in his whole frame, the best protected against weather, injury, or foes, with an unequalled acuteness of sight, scent, and hearing, an unrivalled alacrity of action, and an indomitable pluck, he is possessed of pre-eminent qualifications for his special work. He needs only to have it put before him to prove that he is imbued with the spirit of his native master, who, when taken from his hills to the battlefield and told—

> There's the foe;
> He has nae thought but how to kill
> Twa at a blow!

No kennel can be complete without him.

As a domestic watch and pet companion he is unsurpassed. Centuries gone by he was "greatly set by, esteemed, taken up, and made of"; and down to more recent times "even a duchess would almost be ashamed to be seen in the park unaccompanied by her long-coated Skye." To the present day he remains as unchanged as any variety of the canine race, and has certainly lost none of his merits and attractions. Exceptionally clean and sweet, less dependent on exercise than any other, his delicate sensibility, shrewd sagacity, exclusive attachment, and devoted courage, combined with his elegant form, graceful attire, and aristocratic air, render him during his brief day—

> A thing of beauty and a joy for ever.

So now to graver compositions; possibly more critical ones. Here are the notes and observations with which I have been favoured by my contributors:—

THE COUNTESS OF ABERDEEN.—I think the present-day type tends to become too large, and there are very few dogs which carry their tails correctly. With regard to the variations in the Standard of Points of the English and Scottish clubs, they are not too great to allow for variation of tastes in Skye fanciers, whilst still maintaining a general type.

SIR CLAUD ALEXANDER.—The modern Skyes are all too high, and many not long enough. Bad tails and light eyes are also extremely prevalent.

MR. ALEXANDER BOYNE.—The type of to-day is very varied, and it is seldom that there are more than one or two good specimens, even in a well-filled class. A number are too large,

a number small and weedy; and many have very glaring faults, such as soft woolly coats, light coloured eyes, and badly curled tails. The breed has not improved much these last ten or twelve years. The dogs have generally got bigger, and the coats have been grown to full perfection, which has made many who used to keep and exhibit Skyes give them up, as most judges saw nothing but a well-dressed coat. The drop-eared specimens were nearly extinct from the show-bench, but these last two or three years one or two breeders have specially taken them up, and pushed them to the front; but they are yet behind the prick-eared specimens, as most have faulty ears through being partly bred from the latter.

MR. WALTER NICOL.—We have now two Standards of Points for Skye terriers—namely, that of the Scottish club (which, in my opinion, cannot be improved upon), and that of the English club, which advocates a bigger dog, with a coat of 9 inches; but of what use a coat of that length is to a sporting terrier I fail to see, unless it is that it covers a multitude of sins. If judges adhered to club standards many challenge winners and champions would never have been higher than H.C. Some of them I have measured, and found 12 inches high at shoulder; when you come to consider that theoretically you ought to deduct 5 points for every half inch in height over club standard, such a dog would lose 25 to 30 points, according to which standard you were guided by. As to weight, many of them exceed 30 lbs. Rather than give prizes to such specimens I would withhold them altogether. The great mistake breeders have made has been breeding for coat and length of body, and that is how we now see so many large, ungainly specimens, 45 to 50 inches in length. I am glad to say that many of our leading exhibitors are now showing the smaller variety—bitches of 16 to 18 lbs., and dogs 18 to 20 lbs. These are quite as big as I wish to see them.

MISS M'CHEANE.—I am satisfied that the Skye terrier breed has developed very much during the last few years. The only thing I disapprove of is the mania for coats, which may, I fear, in time make the Skye too much like a Yorkshire terrier. Also I think the present types tend to breeding too large and coarse dogs.

MR. DUNCAN CUNNINGHAM. — Many of the present-day winning dogs and bitches are much too big, ranging from 22 to 30 lbs., and much too high on leg. Dogs should not weigh more than 21 lbs. at the most, and bitches 18. I have bred, reared,

and exhibited this breed for nearly forty years, and in my younger days carried off the principal prizes in England, Scotland, and Ireland, and have bred numerous litters of puppies, supplying fanciers with them in the United Kingdom, America, and the Colonies. My old friend, James Pratt, and myself are the oldest breeders and exhibitors living. The Skye terrier of forty years ago, compared with the type as it exists to-day, has not undergone any very marked change; still there is, to the experienced eye, a departure from old type. In olden times the chief efforts of breeders were to breed long bodies, short legs, and hard coats of medium length. The present-day breeders devote their whole attention to producing the longest coat of hair, but are losing sight of the chief characteristics of the breed, viz., short legs, long body, hard, wiry coat. Many of the all-round judges have encouraged this error. Owing to their deficient knowledge of the breed they seem to attach more weight to a nicely groomed, flowing coat than they do to the true build of the dog. No doubt dogs of this long-coated description are very pleasant to look at, but it is being overdone. So much so that by extreme grooming the dogs are being deprived of that grand woolly undercoat which nature has given them to protect them from the cold of their native climate.

MISS HORROCKS.—I should like to see breeders more careful to produce dogs to the standard size, and to breed sound terriers by discontinuing in-breeding. Drop-eared Skyes are growing strongly in favour and becoming numerous at the various shows, and they should soon regain their proper place in the breed with such fanciers as the Countess of Aberdeen, Mrs. Bosanquet, and Mrs. Hugh Ripley interesting themselves in the variety.

MRS. WILMER.—There is a growing tendency to breed Skyes with full eyes, and more attention should, I think, be given to this defect. The eye should of course be dark, and medium in size. In the Standard of Points the length for the dog is $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches longer than that laid down for the bitch, while the height differs by only half an inch. For obvious reasons Nature decrees that the bitch should be longer than the dog; therefore I venture to say that her height should at least be in proportion. My "ideal" Skye should be a long, low dog; back straight and level, but I do not object to a slight slope from quarters, as I think it gives more power to the hind legs, but it should be very slight. The fore legs should be as straight as possible, and the elbows not stuck out. The body should not be stiff, but lithe. The tail set on moderately high; if set on too high the dog presents a cow-like

appearance, being too square; if too low, the quarters appear rounded. The tail should be carried nearly straight, though I am bound to say all the Skyes I have seen raise the tail when excited, the terrier instinct in them being very strong. It should not, however, curl in any way. The head should be long, the ears smartly pricked, and not set too low on the head, nor too large. The eyes must not be full and prominent, as in the Dandie Dinmont, nor very small, like the fox terrier, but medium size, and not too far apart; the colour a dark hazel, iris and pupil almost shading into one another, and the lids black. The jaws should taper slightly, but not be snipey. Lips and nose black, and if the gums are "dirty," so much the better. Teeth strong, white, and regular, fitting exactly, not under or overshot; this is most important. Coat of two qualities—the under soft and woolly, the upper wiry and straight. That on the ears and head of a finer texture; sufficient ear-feather to protect the ears from injury, and it should fall gracefully, and mingle with the mane, of which the Skye should have plenty. Length of coat is a matter of opinion, breeding, and care; in the natural state the Skye would, I fancy, like most animals living in a cold, bleak climate, shed its coat in summer, regaining it in winter; but when domesticated, as a rule, if in health and well looked after, they should not be out of coat, for as the old coat comes off it is concurrently replaced by the new one, and the process is so gradual it is hardly noticed. Should the coat be injured, however, or fall off by disease, it will not recover under six months at least.

MRS. VICTOR BOSANQUET.—I am not satisfied with type; a great number of the present-day dogs require greater length of body and shorter legs, besides larger skulls and stronger muzzles. The drop-eared Skye is a much older breed than the prick-eared. It has only during the last few years been revived. My ideal of a drop-eared Skye is a dog not under 24 lbs., as low to ground as possible, with an absolutely level back; from the shoulders to the root of tail the measure should be from 22 to 24 inches. The tail should droop between the hind legs with plenty of feather. The skull broad, jaw long and powerful, teeth strong and even. The ears should be set high, and somewhat far back; the feather here is a great feature. The eye dark and full. Coat 8 to 9 inches—no longer—harsh and straight, without much undercoat. The ideal Skye is a *terrier*, not a toy, and can be used for sport if required. The feet should be broad, and legs as straight as possible, with plenty of bone.

MISS A. K. CLIFTON.—I consider the majority of drop-eared

Skyes on the bench to-day too big. In prick-eared dogs we have a much smaller size. This is probably owing to the fact that the drop-ears have no possibility of winning championships. I believe if we could get championships offered for drop-eared Skyes, as a separate variety, they would soon become as popular as their cousins, and the coarse dogs would disappear. Many people think it unnatural for Skyes to have trailing coats; this I fail to see, if the hair has nothing done to it to make it grow. Any Skye can grow a coat, and, if properly kept, keep it. I have been told I ought to cut my Skyes' coats off. When the leading fanciers do so, I will follow their example.

As may be supposed from the exuberance displayed by the Skye Terrier Club of Scotland in treating of the breed, the Skye has many worshippers. And he who would invest in a pet cannot go far wrong if he make it a Skye—provided he has the necessary patience to do its hair. As witness these words of wisdom and warning: "As show-dogs I think that nothing attracts more attention amongst the terrier breeds than a team of well-groomed Skyes; but, as show-dogs, they are much more trouble to keep up to form than any other breed, and I should advise no one to take them up, or, indeed, keep a Skye at all, who does not intend to devote time and patience to it. A ragged, unkempt Skye is a pitiable object, and the dog's comfort and happiness depends greatly on the brushing and grooming, which should be carefully done at least three times a week, be the dog for show or only for a house pet. One great drawback to keeping Skyes as show-dogs is that it is impossible to have them constantly as companions. The present-day condition and length of show-coat requires them to be kept a great deal shut up, especially in wet weather, and not allowed to indulge the hunting proclivities so dear to Skyes."

But, on the other hand, there are many delights to be derived from the fancy of this quaint little dog.

For he is spoken of as "faithful and devoted to his master or mistress, and he does not flatter or fawn on strangers. He can be quiet when you want him to be, and will lie at your feet for hours when you are reading or writing. Yet no dog enjoys a good walk across country more than a Skye, and they are very independent of their surroundings and easily settle in fresh quarters."—"There is no dog so game as a Skye. I find them intelligent, plucky, and faithful. Though they are more trouble than most breeds owing to their coats, I could not be without a Skye."—"Every one has his or her particular fancy in dogs, but apart from that I think a Skye possesses a fascination peculiarly its own. Very faithful, a good guard, good in the field, easily trained for indoors or out, strong and healthy, and rarely attacked by distemper, he is an ideal dog. I keep poodles as well, but infinitely prefer Skyes."—"They never wander and are never led astray; ever true to one master."—"I love Skyes, firstly, because they were handed down to me from my ancient Highland ancestors, who kept a number of them to protect their flocks from the attacks of wild animals; and, secondly, because I think them the most useful of all Scottish terriers for gameness and solid perseverance in their attack on vermin. When kept in show-form they are the most graceful of all terriers."—"Will not make friends, or follow any one outside his owner's own family, and only that particular member of it whom he may be in the habit of following."—"My preference for Skye terriers probably arises from the fact that the earliest pet dog I knew, and was brought up with in the nursery, was a white Skye terrier of my mother's called *Ben*. My dogs at the present time are nearly all descended from Skye terriers given to me by my mother. I have found drop-eared Skyes to be most

intelligent, affectionate, sweet-tempered companions. Their only fault is their love of sport; utter fearlessness leads them into mischief sometimes."

And to wind up this procession of praise I cannot do better than quote some "doggerel verses, handed down from sire to son," which are printed in the club publication of the Skye Terrier Club of Scotland. The third verse is missing, and if any one can "resurrect" it the Honorary Secretary of the club will be glad:—

Let your Skye stand nine inches at shoulder,
Be twice and a half *that* in length;
With a tail the extent that his height is,
And a head about half an inch less.
Have his undercoat cosy as lambs' wool,
His over, goat's hair, like a nag's mane.

Let him stand straight and square on his fore leg,
Be strong in his jaws and his teeth,
Hazel eyes, closely set, and detective;
Keen-scented, and sagely acute.
He will dart at his foe like winged arrow,
And make as sharp work and as short.
. . . .

Treat him kindly as chosen companion,
Preferred above every pet else.
He will know no one but his nain master,
And listen to no stranger's voice.
He will cling to your couch when left vacant,
And keep wistful eyes on your tomb.

There are three specialist clubs devoted to the cult of the Skye terrier—namely, the *Skye Club of England*, the *Skye Terrier Club of Scotland*, and the *Skye and Clydesdale Terrier Club*. The Countess of Aberdeen is the Honorary Secretary of the first named, the entrance fee being half a guinea, and the annual subscription a guinea. In its report for 1902 it indicates the popularity of the breed by recapitulating the number of entries at the leading shows, ranging from 33 at Cruft's to 129 at the Botanic Gardens, with a splendid average of 65

for seven shows; and it notes that during the year under report there had been a considerable increase in the entries of the drop-eared variety, at the Botanic Gardens there being no less than 77 drop-ears as against 55 prick-ears. The interesting brochure of the Skye Club of Scotland most unaccountably omits to mention the name of a single member or official, but it was founded on the 1st of January 1890, its head-quarters are at Edinburgh, and the annual subscription is half a guinea. I believe Mr. Alexander Boyne is the Honorary Secretary; if this surmise is incorrect I can only regret that the modesty of the official has kept his name and address off a book which, as I have said, is by far the most interesting and informing of any of its kind. Sir Claude Alexander is the President and Honorary Secretary of the Skye and Clydesdale Terrier Club, the annual subscription to which is 5s.

The following Standard of Points of the Skye terrier is taken from the Scottish Club's book. Those of the English Club differ in size and weight, the average being—Total length of dogs 43½ inches, and weight from 23 to 25 lbs., and of bitches 41 inches and 20 to 22 lbs., whilst they admit a maximum of 9 inches in the length of coat.

### STANDARD OF POINTS OF THE SKYE TERRIER

HEAD.—Long, with powerful jaws and incisive teeth closing level, or upper just fitting over under. *Skull* wide at front of brow, narrowing between ears, and tapering gradually towards muzzle, with little falling in between or behind the eyes. *Muzzle* always black. *Eyes* hazel, medium size, close set.

EARS.—May be prick or pendant. When *prick*, not large, erect at outer edges, and slanting towards each other at inner, from peak to skull. When *pendant* larger, hanging straight, lying flat and close at front.

BODY.—Pre-eminently long and low. Shoulders broad, chest deep, ribs well sprung and oval shaped, giving flattish appearance to sides. Hindquarters and flank full and well-developed. Back level, and slightly declining from top of hip joint to shoulders. Neck long and slightly crested.

TAIL.—When *hanging*, upper half perpendicular, under half thrown backwards in a curve. When *raised* a prolongation of the incline of the back, and not rising higher nor curling up.

LEGS.—Short, straight, and muscular. No dew claws. Feet large, and pointing forwards.

COAT—(Double).—An under coat short, close, soft and woolly. An over coat long, averaging 5½ inches; hard, straight, flat, and free from crisp or curl. Hair on head shorter, softer, and veiling forehead and eyes; on ears overhanging insides, falling down and mingling with side locks, not heavily, but surrounding the ear like a fringe, and allowing its shape to appear. Tail also gracefully feathered.

COLOUR—(Any variety).—Dark, light-blue, grey, or fawn with black points. Shade of head and legs approximating that of the body.

AVERAGE MEASURE—

DOGS.—Height at shoulder, 9 inches.
Length, back of skull to root of tail, 22½ inches.
,, muzzle to back of skull, 8½ inches.
,, root of tail to tip joint, 9 inches.
Total length, 40 inches.

BITCH.—Half an inch lower, and 2½ inches shorter than dog, all parts proportional. Thus: Body 21 inches, head 8 inches, and tail 8½ inches—total, 37½ inches.

AVERAGE WEIGHT—

Dogs 18 lbs., bitches 16 lbs. No dog should be over 20 nor under 16 lbs., and no bitch over 18 nor under 14 lbs.

POINT VALUES—

| | |
|---|---|
| Size, height and length, with proportion; if 10 inches, 5; if 9 inches, 10; if 8 inches . . | 15 |
| (Scale for bitches ½ inch lower) | |
| Head, skull and eyes, 10; jaws and teeth, 5 . | 15 |
| Ears, carriage with shape, size, and feather . | 10 |
| Body, back and neck, 10; chest and ribs, 5 . | 15 |
| Tail, carriage and feather . . . . | 10 |
| Legs, straightness and shortness, 5; strength, 5 . | 10 |
| Coat, hardness, 10; lankness, 5; length, 5 . | 20 |
| Colour and condition . . . . | 5 |
| Total . . | 100 |

NEGATIVE POINTS.—If over extreme weight to be handicapped 5 for every pound excess. Over or undershot mouth to disqualify. Doctored ears or tail to disqualify. No extra value for greater length of coat than 5½ inches.

In the prick-eared variety the most typical dogs in the breed include *Wolverley Chummie*, *Wolverley Duchess*, *Jock*, and *Nanette Ballochmyle Length*, *Wonderful and*

*Beautiful*, *Young Rosebery* and *Olden Times*. In the drop-eared variety *Duncan Grey*, *Lassikin*, *Feuriach*, *Perfection*, and *Highland Fling*. I have selected *Wolverley Chummie* and a brace of the Countess of Aberdeen's strain, *Lassikin* and *Tarland Tit*, for illustration.

Ch. *Wolverley Chummie* is the property of Miss M'Cheane. He was bred by Mrs. W. J. Hughes, by Ch. *Wolverley Jock* ex *Wolverley Rosie*, and born in October 1899. He stands 9 inches at shoulder, weighs 26 lbs., and is a light-grey with black points. His mistress describes him as "very long and low to the ground; dark, full eyes; carriage of tail and ears perfect. Immense bone, very big head, coat wiry. What makes him such a perfect type is that he is absolutely in proportion, length, height, head, etc. The only fault that I can find with him, and it is a matter of taste, is that he is on the big side, and personally I prefer the smaller type. He has won 5 championships, 3 premierships, and never less than a first every time he has been shown."

*Lassikin*, the property of the Countess of Aberdeen, by whom it was bred, is the daughter of the well-known winner *Feuriach*, by *Macpherson*, and was born in October 1901. She is described as a very beautiful, long and low dog, 9 inches high at the shoulder, and about 37 inches long in the body, and fawn colour with black points. The second dog is her half-sister *Tarland Tit*, who carried off the first prize in novice, and the second prize in open and limit classes at the Kennel Club Show in 1903.

## THE WELSH TERRIER

THE little Welshman is the Benjamin of the sporting terrier tribe—at any rate under his present designation, for he has not yet attained his majority on the show-bench. When he entered the world of exhibition he had a fight for recognition, and in the early days of his registration was bracketed with "old English wire-haired black and tan terriers"—a bit of a mouthful to enunciate in describing a breed of dogs! It was contested that he was not a Welsh terrier at all, but one of the English variety that was common enough a century ago, and the fox terrier of the day, until that title was annexed by the modern white variety as exclusively its own. Nay, it was also said, and doubtless with truth, that a black and tan wire-haired terrier still existed in its primitive purity in our northern counties which was indistinguishable from the breed claiming to be a Welsh terrier, and that it had an equal right to nomenclature. One writer on the subject states that there was a noted dog which won repeatedly in classes provided for Welsh, and, at the same show, for old English terriers—rather oftener as the latter than as the former; whilst several other specimens of the black and tan wire-haired tribe competed in a dual capacity. But Mr. W. S. Glynn declares this is quite wrong. There was a dog called *Dick Turpin* who got H.C. at the

*A. H. Salmon, photo.*

WELSH TERRIER.

*Ch.* Brynhir Ballad.

Plate XXXVIII.

Darlington Show in a class for old English terriers, and second prize *in a class of two*, for Welsh terriers. He never won a prize in a Welsh terrier class at any show where Mr. Glynn exhibited—who was represented at all the shows giving a decent classification for the Welsh terrier.

On the other hand, there were experts in Wales, which has its own strains of foxhounds and spaniels, who stoutly declared this particular terrier was native to the principality, and pointed to families in whose possession it had been for three generations, and to packs of hounds with whom the little dog was known to have run and hunted for a century and more. Its claim to be recognised as Welsh was championed with Welsh ardour, and stuck to with Welsh insistency, and ended in winning the day.

And so we find that the old English wire-haired black and tan terrier has completely dropped out of show classification, and the Welsh terrier remained. Moreover the latter, in its day of triumph, has put its foot down with vigour, for the Welsh Terrier Club decrees that "no Welsh terrier of an unknown, or, in the opinion of the club's sub-committee for the time being, of an unauthorised or impure pedigree, shall be eligible to compete for any of the club's special prizes." That hedges the breed with a sort of divinity, and warns off trespassers and triflers!

The first classes for Welsh terriers, as such, were given at Carnarvon in 1885. The dog was of a different type then to what he has developed into since, for he had a much shorter head. This is especially noticeable in the coloured illustration which Dalziel gives of *General Contour*, as a typical Welsh terrier, in his 1888 edition. And this authority writes of it at that period: "The present-day dog-show Welsh

terriers are, in fact, a scratch pack, got together from all parts of Britain; but as they are in accord with, and future terriers are to be bred to, a recognised standard, a race with a clean pedigree will soon be established, the characteristics of which will assume, more and more, a homogeneous whole."

This has proved to be the case, for, with the establishment of the Welsh Terrier Club in 1886, the little Welshman, as he has now every right to be known, breasted the path of life gallantly, and has quickly won his way to success and popularity—as he deserved to do, for there are few brighter, handier, or hardier little chaps in the canine world. Uniformity of type was attained, and—always a good sign in a breed of dogs—ladies took up the fancy. Moreover, as an enthusiast in the breed has written, "There is one most important factor in the advancement of the breed, and that is the successful stamping out of foreign blood. In judging, contrary to what once used to be the case, one very seldom nowadays has to go up to an exhibitor and say, 'Take it out; it is not a Welsh terrier.' Those terrible otterhoundy brutes one used to see so frequently are, I sincerely trust, gone for ever; as also, do I hope, those monstrosities, as far as colour was concerned, light coloured and silky coated, probably the outcome of a cross into the Yorkshire terrier." By which we may see that the Welsh terrier has not been without his difficulties to struggle through. The same authority goes on—"I am sure of this: we have now got the *stock*, and if we only have the brains we shall do well. . . . I feel confident that, somehow or other, from an animal which was nothing but a kennel terrier we have blundered on into working the breed up into a very competent, a very promising state from the show-point of view, and

this without in any way deteriorating him from a kennel point of view."

The following are the opinions of three of the leading experts on the state of the breed as it exists to-day :—

MR. W. S. GLYNN.—"I am quite satisfied with the progress of the Welsh terrier to perfection, even if, in the average, 'quality' is somewhat lacking." (And from Mr. Glynn's retrospect for 1901, in the *Kennel Gazette*, I excerpt the following)—Welsh terriers are weak, as a rule, in two points, viz. front and feet. The failing in the latter is probably the Welsh terrier's worst and most important fault of the present day. A minor fault is coarseness of ear and ear-carriage. A large eye (in my opinion a most objectionable fault) is also too common, and these defects want, and ought to have, the breeder's attention. Welsh terriers seem to be afflicted with the same peculiarity as the fox terrier, in that their female department is so far ahead of their males. It is an excellent fault, but, in all truth, I should like to see a really good dog come out—I mean a *flier*. There is one great blessing in Welsh terriers, and that is their coats. We have a real good coat, and let us stick to it like grim death, for it is an incalculable benefit in a wire-haired terrier. We must absolutely set our faces against the sheep-coated ones, and never breed from them, dog or bitch, however good they may be in other particulars. Dalziel is wrong in describing the early Welsh terriers as a "scratch pack." There is not a doubt in my mind that the original terrier of Britain was a black and tan, and that the Welsh terrier we have at present is a direct descendant of this terrier. The so-called old English terrier of fifteen years ago was merely a manufacture from Airedales, Yorkshires, Manchesters, and fox terriers: ergo his fall. While they were benched I can never remember one described as "by an old English terrier out of an old English terrier," and I suppose the reason of this was they could not beget anything like themselves! It is pure nonsense to say the Welsh terrier comes from a "scratch pack." If that were so, how could they breed pure? I owned them before Dalziel wrote about them, and ever since, and I have never had a bitch breed anything but a pure Welsh terrier, true to type, markings and everything else.

MR. W. J. M. HERBERT.—I consider the type of the Welsh terrier of to-day, as seen on the bench, as uniform as that of any other breed of terrier. In this respect a great advance has been made during the last few years. I think the great thing breeders

have to guard against is size—not to get them too big. There is also room for improvement in legs and feet. In the Standard of Points I do not think any improvement could be introduced, unless it were to reduce the weight limit a couple of pounds. (And elsewhere): I think that a great many of our present-day winners are a very long way above the club standard. Let us, then, beware that we do not sacrifice our 20-lb. terrier for one of 25 lbs., however good he may be in other respects. Also let us see if we cannot get a nice sized and shaped ear in place of the heavy and often round one so often seen. As regards colour, I fancy the light tan or fawn one used to see is disappearing, but they are still to be found. Let us get rid of them if we can. Taken from any point of view the Welshman is hard to beat, as instanced at Birmingham in 1901 and 1902, when the Society's thirty-guinea challenge cup, offered for the best fox terrier, wire or smooth, Irish or Welsh terrier in the show, was won on both occasions by a Welshman, and on each occasion by a different dog.

THE REV. W. P. NOCK.—The terriers are much too big, and many that are winning to-day are too red in colour and too long in body. In my opinion, too much is sacrificed for long heads, which are fox terrier heads, and are thus going away from the true old Welsh type. My ideal Welsh terrier should have a fairly long head, black nose, and be broader, both in head and muzzle, than a fox terrier, and thicker in ear. The latter should be V-shaped, and carried fairly forward. The eye should be keen and dark. He should be short in body, well ribbed up, strong loin, wider in chest than a fox terrier, and carry his stern gaily. His legs should be straight, with plenty of bone, and small, round feet. The coat should be hard, and colour black or grizzle and tan. In height he should not be more than 16 inches, or weigh more than 20 lbs.

My other correspondents, who wish to remain anonymous, are generally satisfied with the type of the breed, except for a tendency to too large a size.

And for recommendations: "The Welsh terrier is an attractive dog from his cheerful, active disposition, and his affection for his owner. Unlike most terriers, though a very game dog, he is not always seeking quarrels with his neighbours, and he is most persevering in pursuit of rats and rabbits. His colour is very hand-

some, and his coat curiously free from doggy smell, which makes him a very desirable house-dog."—"I have found all Welsh terriers, without exception, most intelligent, affectionate, and game, and not difficult to rear. Every one to whom I have introduced the breed has become attached to it, and in some cases enthusiastic." —"Having had several years' experience with various breeds of terriers, I have no hesitation whatever in saying that, as a worker, companion, and game terrier, the Welshman comes second to none. I have used them continually for rabbit-shooting, and always found them thorough workers. As a companion I know of nothing better, especially for ladies, on account of their quiet and affectionate disposition. They can be trusted not to start a street row, but at the same time are quite capable of taking care of themselves when necessary." —"Their great trait is that they are not 'hell for leather,' head over heels, quarrelsome brutes. They can do their scrape if absolutely necessary, but it is not, as a rule, their seeking. They are *most* faithful and human companions."

MR. W. S. GLYNN'S IDEAL WELSH TERRIER.—My ideal Welsh terrier is a gentleman, not an officious snob. When no vermin are about he must be quiet, calm, friendly, and easy-going; when on the war-path for vermin his attention must solely be concentrated on the vermin—not, as in some terriers, on the nearest part of the anatomy of his companion in sport.

In body formation and limbs he must be symmetrical; he must not be, as so many fox terriers are, all "front," and possessed of nothing behind the saddle fit to carry a mouse. His hind-quarters, as indeed his whole body, must be built on the lines of a powerful, short-legged, short-backed hunter, and yet with any amount of liberty as well as propelling power.

In colour he is best with a jet-black back and neck, and deep tan head, ears, legs, and tail; ears a shade deeper tan than elsewhere. Eyes small, dark, well sunk, and keenly expressive of abundant pluck, with a sort of injured-innocence look, and yet that clearly say: "I have to put up with a lot, and I will do; but

to even my patience there is a limit, and when that limit is reached, by the Lord Harry, then shall the sparks fly."

For a coat, pig bristles close together and an undercoat under them will do very well. And size—ah! there comes the question; weight is nothing to go by, and measuring up to a point is useless. Let me have one of a size that can do a good day's all-round work. I don't want him to go up a gas-pipe; but I should like him to experience no trouble in going to ground in the Mersey Tunnel.

The Welsh Terrier Club is a very business-like institution, with a President, two Vice-Presidents, a committee of ten, a sub-committee of three, eighteen judges, and thirty-four members. The entrance fee is half a guinea, aud the annual subscription a guinea. Mr. W. J. M. Herbert is the Honorary Secretary of the club. The club trophies consist of a dog challenge bowl and a bitch challenge cup, which may be competed for four times in each year, and are fairly safeguarded from annexation by the fact that to accomplish a right to keep them permanently they must be won twelve times by the same owner with the same dog or bitch, or twenty times with different dogs and bitches. Bruce's spider had a soft job compared to this. There are also a breeders' challenge cup, which becomes the absolute property of the member who scores eighty points first, the limit of possibility at each competition being four points, and a juvenile cup to be won outright with twelve successful shots at it—than which conditions I know nothing more carefully framed to foster that true spirit of obstinacy, or, say, determination, which is characteristic of the Welsh nature. A valuable addition to the archives of the Welsh Terrier Club is a Stud Book compiled by Major P. F. Brine, which, in carrying the pedigrees of some of the dogs back to the year 1854, invests the breed with a dignity of antiquity that few others can aspire to. It is pleasing to note

that Major Brine set himself this admirable task out of sheer admiration for a Welsh terrier called *Brilliant*, the best little dog he ever had. Like the dog, the idea was brilliant. *Si monumentum requiris*, what can you desire better than this? Therein breathes the true dog-lover's spirit. A few fanciers with similar sympathies might dower our various breeds of dogs with similar valuable mementoes of their interest in the breed, and lay up a stock of priceless information for future generations, which may not be otherwise obtainable by the ages that are to come.

### STANDARD OF POINTS OF THE WELSH TERRIER

HEAD.—The skull should be flat and rather wider between the ears than the wire-haired fox terrier. The jaws should be powerful, clean cut, rather deeper, and more punishing, giving the head a more masculine appearance than usually seen on a fox terrier. Stop not too defined; fair length from stop to end of nose, the latter being of a black colour.

EARS.—The ear should be V-shaped, small, not too thin, set on fairly high, carried forward and close to the cheek.

EYES.—The eye should be small, not being too deeply set in or protruding out of skull; of a dark hazel colour, expressive, and indicating abundant pluck.

NECK.—The neck should be of moderate length and thickness, slightly arched, and sloping gradually into the shoulders.

BODY.—The back should be short, and well ribbed up; the loin strong; good depth and moderate width of chest. The shoulders should be long, sloping, and well set back. The hindquarters should be strong—thighs muscular and of good length, and the hocks moderately straight, well let down, and a fair amount of bone. The stern should be set on moderately high, but not too gaily carried.

LEGS AND FEET.—The legs should be straight and muscular, possessing fair amount of bone, with upright powerful pasterns. The feet should be small, round, and cat-like.

COAT.—The coat should be wiry, hard, very close, and abundant.

COLOUR.—The colour should be black and tan, or black grizzle and tan; free from black pencilling on toes.

SIZE.—The height at shoulder should be 15 inches for dogs, bitches proportionately less. Twenty pounds shall be considered a fair average weight in working condition, but this may vary a pound or so either way.

There have never been any point values adopted for this breed.

Mr. Glynn seems to have a monopoly of this strain, for all the dogs and bitches mentioned by my correspondents bear his affix, "*Brynhir*." They include *Brynhir Breaker*, *Burglar*, *Buxom*, and *Burnish*. I asked Mr. Glynn to be good enough to send me a photograph of what he thought would represent the breed most typically, and he favoured me with *Brynhir Ballad*, whose illustration I have the pleasure to reproduce. Mr. Glynn thus describes her:—

Ch. *Brynhir Ballad* was bred by Mr. J. Roberts, and is by *Morlwyn Plough* out of *Vic.*, and was born in August 1898. She is black and rich tan in colour, and weighs about 20 lbs. She has a dark eye; small ears, carried very close to the head, and properly placed; tail always up; coat good, and of the sort that does not want trimming. Where she probably beats any other terrier I have ever seen in any breed is in her hindquarters and movement. The poetry of action and of a perfect, symmetrical hunter are all present with her. Her second thighs, loins, back, and general hardness are a treat to see. Her head, ears, expression, and terrier character could not, and will never be, improved on in any terrier. It is possible for the *hypercritical* to pick two faults in her—her feet might be better and her bone bigger; but, as I once heard Mr. Harding Cox say, in awarding her the cup at the Agricultural Hall for "the best terrier of any variety in the show," "It may be true you *might* improve her in those respects, but I doubt it, for her *tout ensemble* and symmetry are perfect. She has ample bone and quite good enough feet for *her*." The same celebrated judge once told me he considered *Ballad* the best piece of dog-flesh he had ever seen in his life. *Ballad* has won 22 championships and 147 first and special prizes, and is the dam of several winners.

# THE RACE-DOG

*Norman Mayall & Co., photo.*

WHIPPET OR RACE-DOG.

MASORLEY MAY.

PLATE XXXIX.

## THE WHIPPET

THE whippet affords a remarkable illustration of the talent, not to say genius, of the dog-fancier, and his ability to manufacture new types of dogs. No one looking at the picture of *Manorley May*, which adorns this section, and bearing in mind her height, which is 17 inches, and her weight of 19 lbs., could desire a more exquisitely proportioned four-footed creature, or one more instinct with the attributes of swiftness and virility made apparent. And yet this model of harmony and grace is, in its correlation of height and weight, outside the ordinary scheme of canine creation. To all intents and purposes it represents a new species of dog, as it represents a new feature of attractiveness in dog-fancying in one of the uses to which it is put.

Curiously enough, the whippet as a piece of canine art is the creation of the working-man. To the miners and mill-hands of the North,—heavy-limbed, huge-framed, grimy delvers in the bowels of the earth, or toilers in the busy factories,—we owe this dainty design in dog's flesh. The genesis of the breed may be traced to the love of sport and affection for dogs which are characteristics of the North, that has given us many contributions besides whippets to our canine classification—as, for instance, Airedale, Bedlington, Manchester, Yorkshire, and white English terriers, and also fostered in

their purity other older breeds which were, otherwhere, lapsing into a state bordering on mongrelism. The dog-world owes much to the triangle between the Mersey, the Humber, and the Tyne. Therein dwell a hardy, homely race of sportsmen, whose humble sphere of sport was confined chiefly to rabbiting; and it was to increase the speed of the terrier or "snap-dog," formerly used in this pursuit, that, some time in the 'Sixties, it is said, an out-cross with the Italian greyhound was resorted to; others ascribe the creation to a cross between a greyhound and a Manchester terrier.

It was an alliance of swiftness and grace with pluck and tenacity, and the blend "came away good." In time, by judicious breeding, there was evolved an animal with the grit and staying powers of the working terrier, and the symmetry and speed of the aristocratic dog. No doubt at a later period greyhound blood filtered in, for there is a variation in the weight of the whippet inconsistent with a cross confined to the first two breeds only. But the terrier grit was maintained whilst the physical outline was gradually refined into closer harmony with the greyhound, until a perfect miniature of that breed was arrived at, only gifted with an improved character and mental capacity.

With its racing lines, with its racing speed, and with its tractability, a new vista opened out for this new breed of dog. I have no doubt the terrier intelligence it retained suggested the possibility of the purpose to which it was put. The whippet was a dog that could be trained to race without fur leading it—no easy task when you come to try it, but amazingly fascinating when accomplished. Horse-racing is a sport which appeals irresistibly to the natives of these islands, whilst only a few can personally enjoy it. But racing with dogs, and such dogs, was a form of com-

petition that came within the means of the poorest. The north countryman took to the idea with avidity; the dog was bred more and more for speed; there came "professional trainers" to educate it and fit it for its duties; and in the course of a decade the "snap-dog" blossomed into a race-dog, and whippet-racing one of the most popular amusements of the miners and other sons of toil in Northumberland, Yorkshire, and the adjoining counties.

Whippet-racing is now a big business — quite a world of its own; its rules and regulations are not germane to these pages; but those who are interested in them may find all the information they need in a publication that deals with the subject at full length. Sufficient to say that the sport has been reduced to very exact lines, and the rigour with which it is legislated for and conducted is second to that of no other sporting code in the country. To the well-trained whippet the race alone is the thing. That it excites them almost as much as their masters is a fact capable of ocular proof at any meeting; and the wholly innocent cause of that excitement contrasts pleasantly with other similar dog-diversions where praise for the prowess of the dog is qualified by pity for its victim. From a humanitarian point of view, the whippet, as a race-dog pure and simple, and one that can be excited to the greatest exertion without scent of blood or sight of fur, deserves popularity.

I have been so fortunate as to obtain the following contribution from Mr. J. R. Fothergill, the President of the Whippet Club, on the subject of whippet-racing, and although its inclusion extends this section beyond its allotted limits, I am sure all my readers interested in the breed will be glad to have a description of the sport from one so qualified to give it:—

WHIPPET-RACING.—The whippet has often been called "the poor man's race-horse," but nevertheless it can also be the rich man's race-dog. It is true that, with a few exceptions, only working-men in England have ever attended to whippet-racing, but I shall endeavour to show that, although it is the cheapest form of sport, it is far from being the meanest.

Although whippet-racing finds its patrons amongst some of the narrowest intellects in England, there is no doubt that the simple miners and mill-hands of the North have a genius for the breeding, running, and educating of their dogs. I have visited Lancashire more than once, especially to investigate whippet-racing there, and have come away full of admiration for their scientific methods, their keenness and honesty.

The best racing-whippets are bred like race-horses, through a long line of winners. To be of any use the dog must begin its education very young. As soon as it has been weaned it is kept aloof from his fellow-puppies and other dogs. From this day forward it lives the life of a hermit, having no friends and no enemies. The reason for this is that the dog will have to do his racing unjockeyed, so to speak, over a 200 yards' course, and from the moment he leaves the "slipper's" hands he must never take his eyes off the "rag" which another man (the walker-up) has carried before him up to the end of the course. If, then, he has been in the habit of chiveying playmates, or fighting with strange dogs, there are ten chances to one he will prefer to indulge in these games up the course instead of honestly "running to the rag." If, on the contrary, he has never known the society of other dogs, it will rarely occur to a whippet to molest them. Those who turn out "slappers," as they are called, are useless for racing, as they will never run in front. At the first Lancashire whippet-race I attended a friend told me he was bringing out a whelp for the first time. It was twelve months old and had never run in company. I suggested it was a toss-up whether it would "run honest" or not, and he was quite surprised at my doubts. But the whelp turned neither to right nor to left, and in the company of five screaming dogs, and between some thousand onlookers, ran as straight as a line from start to rag.

During the first six months or year a puppy requires much attention and patience; he is generally, therefore, handed over to an experienced "walker," who, for two or three shillings a week, will keep and educate him. The puppy at once takes up his quarters in the man's kitchen and bedroom, where he plays and sleeps till his master has left work for the day, when he is taken

*Edwards & Smith, photo.*

WHIPPET-RACING.

STARTING.

PLATE XL.

for a walk. It is comical to see a little puppy walking on a lead, muzzled and coated. They always muzzle whippets to prevent them picking up bad food when in training; many of them even sleep in their muzzles.

The puppy is now encouraged to tear and worry rag and paper, even though he destroy, at times, some of his master's belongings. The taste for the rag once developed, he is held by one man in the proper slipping fashion, whilst another worries him with a rag. He is let loose at it, and then, by increasing the distance from a yard to thirty yards or so, the puppy will dash at the rag with all the speed he can muster. Great care is taken not to give the puppy too much exertion, as this would damp his fire. He is taken to whippet-races, where he hears the people shout, accustoms himself to the starter's pistol and the noise of the dogs yelping. No dog shows more nerve than the racer; he is indifferent to everything save his rag, and afraid of nothing. The experiment was once tried, for a wager, of lighting a line of straw across the track; the dogs ran through it quite blindly. I have been asked whether a dog was brought to such a pitch of keenness by starving him; and again whether he was taught by the whip! The reader will have already understood there is no need for such curious means to prick the courage; nay rather, the dog, whatever be his offence, is never chastised. The fearlessness of the race-dog is due entirely to the fact that he has never known suppression or defeat from man or beast. He lives by rule, is daily given his runs and walks, and his only diversion is to witness a dog-race, or to visit the public-house of an evening in his master's arms or on the lead. Here he will attract a circle of whippeters, who will handle him and maul him about on the table, much to the satisfaction of the walker.

When the whelp is about ten months old he bids good-bye to his first keeper, and starts life with a trainer. Of course the greater number of dogs are brought up by their owners and trained by them, but most of these will spend six weeks, at some time, with a trainer. But the successful dogs, as a rule, are those that are under professional care, which is by no means expensive.

The dog is now walked regularly from 5 to 15 miles a day, according to his size, and does a 200-yards' course twice a-week, or even shorter distances. When he is quite hard, and his feet in condition to stand the cinder track, he runs his first race. It is impossible to lay down hard and fast rules for training, as trainers differ so much in method, and dogs in constitution; but the chief points observed are these. The dog must have

enough slow work for hardening him to give him stamina, say, for three races in an afternoon, and enough running to develop his speed; by observation and timing the trainer is able to see how much exercise, fast and slow, he needs. It is important, moreover, that the dog, when walking, should go on a lead at his trainer's pace, and that, when he runs, the distance shall never exceed 200 yards. As for feeding, the bantam's eggs, the first slice off a shoulder of lamb, old sherry, and other delicacies that one hears is the race-dog's bill of fare, these are vain imaginations! The dog usually gets a basin of broken bread, gravy, and pudding; very often tea and ale, and, in fact, has just what the family has. Meat he is not given until the last few days before a race. Of course if he has to run for a £50 match he is somewhat more expensively fed for a week or so.

I have now considered the education and training of a race-dog. Before I come to the handicapping a word or two must be said of the "slipper" and "walker-up." For the race the dog is put into the hands of the slipper, who stands behind the starting mark, and the walker-up, who is generally the owner or trainer, or some one whom the dog knows, takes the rag, waves it in the face of the dog, and then, with frantic shouts or whistles, passes up the course with the other walkers-up, and does not stop till the "trig mark" is reached—that is, 15 yards behind the winning mark. The judge signals to the starter at the other end, who tells the slippers to "get ready." These take up their position, holding the dogs by a good handful of skin by the neck, and the tail firmly at the root. The starter, standing behind the dogs, fires the pistol, and with a lurch forward the dogs are all thrown into their stride, and before thirteen seconds they will have caught, every dog, his own rag, with all the grip of his jaws, be lifted into the air by his own momentum, and swing around his particular man like a fish on a line!

The first over the winning mark wins; the walkers-up are careful to hold the rag at arm's length to the side, otherwise, when the dog comes at full speed to catch the rag, he would break his neck against the man's legs. A whippet, when at full speed, is going at the rate of somewhere between 36 and 40 miles an hour!

There are seldom more than three or four crack slippers in Oldham, for their business requires great skill. These men take from £3 to £5 for slipping the winner of a handicap. So precisely can they tell how dogs are slipped that a slipper is commonly heard to say that he got his dog off three or four inches better than another, or *vice versa!* And seeing that in the finals

of a good handicap the six dogs can be "covered with a towel" when running over the winning mark, it is important to procure every possible inch by securing a good slipper. It is only by slipping some thirty dogs every Saturday afternoon that these men become such skilled performers.

The dogs are handicapped on a very elaborate and exact system. It is only just that a little dog should get a start from a big one, as the bigger has the more weight and muscle and a longer stride, and so a scale of weights and starts is made to establish a basis upon which to handicap any dog whose performances are not known. By closely observing the running of hundreds of dogs for forty years, and by striking the averages after every handicap, the folk in Lancashire have elaborated a scale which allows the best dog to win, and not the biggest. Ignorant people will make up a handicap, giving the dogs two yards to the pound, but this is rough and unscientific. It stands to reason that a pound to a dog weighing 9 lbs. is more advantageous to him over a dog weighing 8 lbs. than the pound would be to a 28-lb. dog over one weighing 27 lbs. With the little dogs a pound is worth more in proportion to their whole weight than with big dogs. This will be illustrated in the appended scale:—

SCALE OF HANDICAP STARTS IN WHIPPET-RACING

| Lbs. | Dog. | Bitch. | Lbs. | Dog. | Bitch. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 28 | 3 | scratch | 17 | 14 | 11 |
| 27½ | 3½ | ½ | 16½ | 15 | 12 |
| 27 | 4 | 1 | 16 | 16 | 13 |
| 26½ | 4½ | 1½ | 15½ | 17 | 14 |
| 26 | 5 | 2 | 15 | 18 | 15 |
| 25½ | 5½ | 2½ | 14½ | 19 | 16 |
| 25 | 6 | 3 | 14 | 20 | 17 |
| 24½ | 6½ | 3½ | 13½ | 21 | 18 |
| 24 | 7 | 4 | 13 | 22½ | 19½ |
| 23½ | 7½ | 4½ | 12½ | 24 | 21 |
| 23 | 8 | 5 | 12 | 25½ | 22½ |
| 22½ | 8½ | 5½ | 11½ | 27 | 24 |
| 22 | 9 | 6 | 11 | 28½ | 25½ |
| 21½ | 9½ | 6½ | 10½ | 30 | 27 |
| 21 | 10 | 7 | 10 | 31½ | 28½ |
| 20½ | 10½ | 7½ | 9½ | 33 | 30 |
| 20 | 11 | 8 | 9 | 34½ | 31½ |
| 19½ | 11½ | 8½ | 8½ | 36 | 33 |
| 19 | 12 | 9 | 8 | 38 | 35 |
| 18½ | 12½ | 9½ | 7½ | 40 | 37 |
| 18 | 13 | 10 | 7 | 42 | 39 |
| 17½ | 13½ | 10½ | | | |

Bitches, being three yards faster than dogs, have three yards less start.

And so if one has to make up the starts of a number of dogs one would employ this scale, and the dogs at the finish would be very close, unless they differed much in quality. It would then be a "classic race," in which the fastest dog would win. In the next handicap one would put the winner back two yards behind the last mark, and the second one a yard. If any dog ran particularly badly in its heat, he would be given a lift of a yard or so. It does not do to be too generous with the lifting. Good dogs are not encouraged, and bad ones are kept low until the owner complains to the handicapper, when he is told to "get a better dog!" I cannot but think with regret how many bad dogs are exterminated every year, but as the whippeter is a poor man he cannot afford to keep bad stock.

On the other hand, there are feelings almost romantic between the owner and a successful dog; it is always the centre of love and affection in the family, and deserves to be when, perhaps, it has supported them from time to time by its winnings. And when it gets too old it lives for the rest of its life by the fire, and the family get another winner to run for them.

Of course betting is with the whippeters the sole aim of dog-racing. At the winning end of the course there is a stand erected for "clockers." These stand with watch in hand and time the winners of the first heats before they and their friends put down their money on the ultimate winner. The dog-timing watch is expensive, costing about £9 or £10; the hand travels round the dial once in two seconds. Thus a dog can be timed easily to a sixteenth of a second, which represents a yard.

Twice a month all through the year there is a handicap of £25 or £40 at Oldham itself, at which some two or three hundred dogs are entered. After the first round one can generally get 6 to 1 or better on the field. Sums of £300 or £400 are frequently won at these handicaps, and I once saw a dog backed by its owner to win £3000, but he lost by a nose! Needless to say the owner was a well-to-do innkeeper.

There are many ways of acting fraudulently, so that the favourite cannot win. Doping and other tricks are uncommon; they are too elaborate. But where there is no careful supervision of the start,—on the London running grounds, for instance,—the slipper gets the dog off with a bad start. This is so common in London that on occasions the pistol has been fired and none of the dogs have been slipped, the reason being that each man was

betting on the others' dogs. This of course reduces the sport to robbery and absurdity. But if the stewards insist on fair starting, there are left fewer ingenious tricks in whippet-racing for cheating the betting public than there are in horse-racing; for it is possible to see if a man has held his dog, however momentary the delay may have been, whilst it is never quite obvious that a jockey is pulling.

Personally the few whippet-races I have seen have always reminded me of a sight I was once witness to in an Indian jungle, where I was shooting, with a large body of beaters driving the game towards me. My station was in front of a small glade, the grass on which was cropped as short as the turf on the Downs by browsing deer. Suddenly across this little open space darted seven mouse-deer at full speed, frightened by the cries of the approaching beaters. They were tiny, grey, dotted things, with pipe-stem legs, just about the size of smallish whippets, and not at all unlike them in shape and form. Running extended, and low to earth, they cleared the glade and shot into the opposite jungle before you could say "Jack," much less "Robinson!" I think it was the fleetest entrance and exit I ever saw in my life. And when I was present at my first whippet-race, the memory of that scene occurred to me, and the conviction to my mind that a mouse-deer was the proper quarry for a whippet.

The speed of a whippet is almost incredible. The record time, made by a 21½-lb. dog, named *White Eye*, was twelve seconds for 200 yards, which works out at a pace of a mile in 1¾ minutes. A 12-lb. dog has been known to cover the same distance (expressing it in the technical phraseology of the whippet-race course) in "7½ yards inside 13 seconds." The racing pace of a whippet is reckoned at 16 yards per second—figures that will account for the acute excitement when these little creatures are competing with one another

with (what you might call) the speed of a telegraph message! In such "touch and go" affairs as these handicaps necessarily are, the rules controlling them have to be extra stringent, and the slipping of a dog before the report of the pistol is followed with disqualification for the whole meeting. Bank holidays and Saturday afternoons are devoted to whippet-racing by thousands of people in the North, and, needless to say, there is a great deal of gambling and wagering on the results of the races.

Rabbit-coursing is also conducted on the handicap principle. The rabbit is allowed an average start of 50 yards,—it may be more or less,—and the dogs are slipped from their handicap stations. There are no points allowed to count for the skill displayed in the course, as in greyhound-coursing, and each couple of competitors are matched for the most kills of from eleven to twenty-five rabbits.

It is an inexplicable thing why whippet-racing has never "caught on" in the South, notwithstanding that exhibitions have been given at some of the leading shows. Mr. Fothergill arranged two whippet handicaps, £20 and £25 stakes, at Lewes in 1901, under the management of a club formed by him; but, though the racing was very good, over 100 dogs being entered in the second race, the venture proved a great loss. The breed, however, has decidedly increased in popularity. In 1899 a Whippet Club was formed, and through its exertions the breed received formal recognition and was accorded a place in the Registers three years later. It is, by its very nature, not a show-bench dog, but classes are fairly well filled, and at the Kennel Club shows in 1901-03 the entries averaged forty-five, though they sank below forty in the latter year. Of course this cannot be considered very satisfactory in a small breed of dogs, and

one which numbers its votaries by the thousands in the North. But it is pretty certain that the Whippet Club, —which now has such names on its front page as Mr. J. R. Fothergill, Lady Arthur Grosvenor, Mr. Fred Bottomley, Mr. Harding Cox, and Mr. A. Lamotte,— will soon improve the status of the breed, and carry it into the position which the intrinsic merits and physical beauties of the little animal it has been founded to foster, right worthily deserve. The sport of whippet-racing, suitably conducted, is one in which ladies might find a great delight; it offers the quintessence of excitement, crystallised into a few seconds; it is capable of being conducted within private enclosures, and kept select, and it adds an attraction to dog-keeping which is not to be obtained in any other breed under the same innocent conditions. There is no blood shed, and there is lots of fun, and, I doubt not, as much joy in owning a winner as in the proprietorship of other "fleetest of their kind." And for this reason alone the development of whippet-racing is a consummation which no one could object to.

The following are the notes I have received from my contributors in this section:—

MR. J. R. FOTHERGILL (President of the Whippet Club).— Nothing could be better, as regards type, than many of the bitches now being shown, but the breed requires a few good dogs, a few good breeders, and a few good supporters. The values of the points seem to me good, but in judging by points one can often go wide of the mark. More especially is this the case with whippets and greyhounds. With these dogs individual points are of little importance, even if they have them all in equal perfection, without symmetry, balance, and simplicity of construction. The whippet is intended for running only. Many a dog, with a row of bad points, is faster and handier than many a good showing-dog. The reason is that they have the above-mentioned qualities. Judge a whippet out of focus first, and then adjust your sight for detail.

I like a whippet first as a race-dog; a more interesting study for the subject of "animal psychology" is hard to find, but there is no need to expatiate upon this somewhat abstract subject here. Like all dogs their characters are like those of their masters, and they are as easily impressionable and taught as any other dog I have had to do with. A thorough-bred whippet can be taught retrieving and ratting, whilst he is naturally a better hand at rabbits than a terrier or a greyhound. I have four thorough-bred whippets that will hunt the scent of a rabbit, or any other scent, for any distance. Each takes its own line, and they are remarkably clever at casting, and travel at a great speed. I have known them to hunt a hare entirely by its scent, over the Downs, for about a mile and a half. A lady looks better with a whippet than with most other dogs; they are so ornamental. Though if for this purpose a foil is required, a bulldog certainly serves best.

MR. HARDING COX.—There is not much fault to find with the type of the breed as it exists to-day, but breeders must keep up sufficient bone, and must be careful about close, strong, well-arched and well-split up feet. I have always judged whippets on greyhound lines, making due allowance for difference of type in hindquarters. Beyond the sport afforded by whippets in sprinting matches and coursing rabbits, I fancy there is little to recommend them as companions, though they are lively and amiable as a rule.

MRS. CHARLES CHAPMAN.—I think there is a danger in breeding whippets fit for the bench only, and losing sight of the qualities necessary for racing. The whippet is gifted with extraordinary speed, and for the limited distance it races, exceeds that of the greyhound. My bitch, Ch. *Rosette of Radnage*, accomplished the feat of winning a championship at the Kennel Club Show of 1900, and winning the handicap promoted by the Whippet Club at the same show. Whippet-racing, properly conducted, is a most charming sport, and essentially suitable for ladies to interest themselves in, and I feel very sorry that the efforts made to popularise it seem to have been without result. Whippets, or more properly speaking, race-dogs, are capital house companions; but their principal interest lies in the sport they afford. And for my "ideal" whippet, I see him held in the leash by his handler, eager for the start. He is straining every nerve, quivering with excitement, and fairly screaming in his anxiety to be after the white rag, to reach which is, to the uninitiated, the inexplicable cause of this mysterious racing. My

ideal is of brindle colour, about 15 or 16 lbs. in weight, so that he is well placed in the handicap. His head is long and lean, his mouth perfectly level, his ears small, and shoulders as sloping as possible. His body is well tucked up, with the brisket very deep; his back slightly arched, with a whip tail carried low, but nicely curved. His hindquarters are very muscular, and his fore legs absolutely straight, with feet hard and close; and hind legs well turned, with hocks bent under him; all the muscles induced by the thorough training he has undergone showing — he looks what he is — a perfect picture of a "race-dog."

MR. A. LAMOTTE.—The breed is making great strides in the right direction, viz., a greyhound, weighing about 20 lbs. In the Standard of Points great value should be laid on power in hindquarters and loin, good feet and legs, deep brisket, with plenty of heart room. The whippet was made to race, and gallop short distances at a great speed. To see these small pets fighting it out, yard by yard, on the track, is wonderful. And how they love the sport! Unfortunate it is that it is not in better hands; but we must hope that this will improve in time. The whippet, as a pet, is a very charming animal, and its affection for its owner is great. Watching them running about, with their quick, graceful movements, is a joy to the eye.

MR. FRED BOTTOMLEY.—The type of whippet to-day is better than of late, though there is still room for improvement in shoulders, weak pasterns, straight hocks and size, which, in my opinion, should not exceed 20 lbs. I am the oldest whippet exhibitor, and for the last ten years have made but few additions to my kennels, always showing my own strain, which include Ch. *Manorley New Boy* and Ch. *Manorley Model*, now withdrawn from the show-bench. I have always found whippets the best of pals, very game dogs, and the fastest dog living for their size.

I take the following Standard of Points from the Whippet Club's publication. This institution has a strong committee, Mr. Charles S. Smith is the Honorary Secretary, and the subscription is half a guinea annually. The club owns a challenge cup, which is competed for every year at the Kennel Club Show.

## STANDARD OF POINTS OF THE WHIPPET

HEAD.—Long and lean, rather wide between the eyes, and flat at the top. The jaw powerful, yet clearly cut.

TEETH.—Level and white.

EYES.—Bright and fiery.

EARS.—Small, fine in texture, and rose shaped.

NECK.—Long and muscular, elegantly arched, and free from throatiness.

SHOULDERS.—Oblique and muscular.

CHEST.—Deep and capacious.

BACK.—Broad and square; rather long and slightly arched over the loin, which should be strong and powerful.

FORE LEGS.—Rather long, well set under the dog, possessing fair amount of bone.

HINDQUARTERS.—Strong and broad across, stifles well bent, thighs broad and muscular, hocks well let down.

FEET.—Round, well split up, with strong soles.

TAIL.—Tapering, long and nicely carried.

COAT.—Fine and close.

COLOUR.—Black, red, white, brindle, fawn, blue, and various mixtures of each.

WEIGHT.—The ideal weight is 20 lbs.

There are no points values published in this breed.

The subject of my illustration is Mr. Fred Bottomley's beautiful bitch *Manorley May*, born in June 1899, by *Fullerton* ex *Judy*. She stands 17 inches at shoulder, weighs 19 lbs., and is of a fawn colour. Mr. Bottomley describes her as having a grand, long, lean head, brown eyes, semi-erect ears, small and fine in texture, and beautiful neck and shoulders. Her body and legs are perfect, and she is framed for speed and work. She possesses all the good points of a first-class whippet, and has proved herself a very fast bitch in handicap races, as well as a great winner on the show-bench. She won a championship at Brighton, firsts every time shown, and is the dam of winners.

# FOREIGN SPORTING-DOGS

*H. C. Brooke, copyright.*

DINGO.

MYALL.

*A. Bowden, photo.*

ELKHOUND.

JAGER.

PLATE XLI.

## FOREIGN SPORTING-DOGS

### THE DINGO

THE dingo is essentially a sporting-dog—too much so at times. But he differs from all other sporting-dogs in this volume inasmuch as whilst they are civilised dogs, whose chase is after the wild animal, the dingo is a wild dog, whose quarry is often the sheep and lambs of Australian farmers. I have no doubt he has exceedingly good sport after his lights. Indeed, I have heard that he can do as much destruction in a sheep-fold as a terrier in a rat-pit. My illustration represents *Myall*, a red-coloured dog, weighing 50 lbs., and standing 21 inches at shoulder, the winner of fifty prizes, and the property of Mr. H. C. Brooke, who writes of him as follows :—"The dingo is in colour and shape the handsomest of all breeds; his intelligence is very great, and what I am particularly fond of is his independent nature. He never takes to strangers, and there is no slavishness or cringing about him. He is his master's pal; but his master is only his owner—not his boss. The cunning and intelligence of the dingo is well known to Australians; a pair of dingos have, on occasion, been known to pass through a flock of unshorn sheep, leaving them untouched, to reach a flock of shorn ones in an inner fold, which they could more easily

worry. The first time old *Myall* was ever shown, soon after he arrived from Australia, was at Cruft's some years ago. He got a nasty bite through the fore foot from an elkhound in the ring. This was attended to by Mr. Cawdle, and each morning when Mr. Cawdle approached the kennel he was in, this wild dog put his paw out for him to examine. At that time I lived three miles from the nearest station, and as Myall refused to walk (on account of his paw) I ordered a cab to meet me at the station. However, it failed to turn up, and no other vehicle being available, I started to walk, carrying Myall on my shoulder, and leading a bulldog. About two and a half miles on the road Myall spied a sheep stuck in the hedge, and jumped down and made for it. After this he evidently realised that it was no good shamming to be lame, and went on all right. Only I wished the sheep had occurred earlier in the walk! *Myall* was an excellent worker with ferrets. His son, *Chelsworth Myall*, will also work with ferrets, and is a grand watch-dog and personal protector. He is, however, sometimes uncomfortably ferocious, his mother, *Macquarie Belle*, having been an absolutely untamable bitch, and when he has a bad-tempered fit on, he will go for anything, no matter what it is."

## THE ELKHOUND

From several interesting letters from Lady Cathcart I glean the following particulars:—"My Norwegian elkdog *Jäger* comes from Swedish Lapland, just on the borders of Norway, which is the best district for the true, pure-bred hunting-elk and bear-dogs. They are rare, and the natives very loth to part with them, and

are now exceedingly expensive to purchase in their native land. When bred in and in, in this country, the breed deteriorates and gets smaller. Under present quarantine regulations it is difficult to import the new blood that is so urgently needed. There have been no regularly defined points laid down for this breed by the Kennel Club, but Sir Reginald Cathcart, who has had a very large experience of them hunting in Norway, says the best specimens are dark-grey, occasionally with tan points; very straight legs; round, cat-like feet; dense, thick, furry coats; face like a fox; prick ears; very keen eyes; tail twisted tightly, and sometimes carrying a double twist. The elk-dog is a most attractive pet. Although so wild by instinct and nature he becomes most devoted and docile towards his owners. In their own country the dogs are used entirely for sporting purposes, for tracking elk and bear, and have nothing to do with the dogs which are used in the Norwegian farms for cattle and sheep. In this country they might be made useful for tracking deer, for they have wonderful noses. Also extraordinary powers of endurance. In one instance Sir R. Cathcart went with a single dog after a wounded bear; the dog followed it for twenty-four hours, when the bear tried to cross a river and was drowned. These dogs when hunting have been known to wind reindeer four miles off. Even in their comparatively tame state in England they are inveterate hunters whenever they get a chance. It is a great pity they are not more widely known and recognised, but they are so few and far between, and the difficulties of importing them so great, that the many people who take a fancy to them cannot indulge it. The natives of Norway ask large prices for the pure-bred animals; in fact, for a dog really entered to bear and elk they cannot be tempted with any price. The

dogs' coats are impervious to rain, and in Norway they often sleep in the snow."

Some very fine benches of elkhounds have been seen at some of our English shows, and on occasions separate classes have been given for them. Lady Cathcart has generally carried off the leading prizes with the splendid and unique team she exhibits. Mr. A. W. Hicks-Beach is another exhibitor of this variety.

*Jäger*, the subject of my illustration, was bred by Mr. S. Hanson, by Pil *ex* Polka, and born in May 1896. He is a dark-grey in colour, stands 20 inches at shoulder, and weighs 50 lbs. Lady Cathcart describes him as having "dark, large, keen, brown eyes; ears carried erect; tail in a tight double twist, very thick and furry, like a fox's brush; dense, thick coat; stands very straight on his legs. A keen sporting dog, but a charming and devoted pet, most faithful to his owner. He is considered by all judges to be the most typical elkhound in the breed. He has won twenty-five first prizes, and is the sire of several winning sons and daughters."

## THE PERSIAN GREYHOUND

I am indebted to Mr. H. C. Brooke for the interesting illustration of the Persian greyhound, *Persian Arrow*, which I am able to publish. He describes the breed as one of the most graceful of all sporting dogs, as well as one of the most ancient, having existed before most of our modern breeds were dreamt of, and being probably the original greyhound. It is certain that the greyhounds sculptured on the monuments of Egypt are a fringe-eared species, and the Afghan and Grecian greyhound both have this distinctive feature. Mr. Brooke goes on to say that "the Persian greyhound is certainly of eastern origin. The several varieties of eastern greyhounds differ chiefly in coat; thus that of the Afghan dog is far more profuse than that of the Persian, and it is more cruel and savage in disposition; getting

*Heitis & Son, photo.*

CIRCASSIAN HAREHOUND.

FLY.

*H. C. Brooke, photo.*

PERSIAN GREYHOUND.

PERSIAN LIGHTNING.

PLATE XLII.

on to India we find the Rampur hound, still more savage, and, as befits the climate, almost destitute of coat; in the other direction we find the Russian borzoi, with a coat suited to the country, and showing a smaller ear, as found amongst the European family, the eastern branch all having large, pendant ears."

I agree with all Mr. Brooke says except that the Rampur hound is almost destitute of coat. I kept a couple in India for coursing, and they had exquisitely fine, silky coats, which contrasted advantageously with those of my greyhounds; but they had not the courage of the latter in the chase, and always allowed the English dogs to go in first and tackle the jackal, after which they did prodigies of valour in the shape of chawing it up. The various breeds of Oriental greyhounds are grouped by Mr. Lionel Jacobs, the President of the Northern India Kennel Club, into Persian, Afghan, Barakzai, Arab, Ramour, and Poligar. Some of these carry the jacket of a borzoi, notably a variety not uncommon in the Chenab Bar, in the Punjab. Mr. Jacobs describes the Rampur hound as a hairless one, but the hound figured in the *Dog Owner's Annual for* 1901 (in which his article appears) is certainly clothed with a smooth coat. In Southern India the Poligar hound is sometimes naked; but some of the pariah dogs of India are hairless owing to a chronic state of skin disease. The ears of the Rampur differ from those of the Persian and Afghan in being slightly feathered. All these species of greyhounds are keen hunting hounds, but have very unreliable tempers, and are snappy and quarrelsome, and sometimes very treacherous and savage.

*Persian Arrow*, the subject of my illustration, is a sleek-coated pale-cream dog, about 25 inches in height, and weighing 50 lbs.

## THE CIRCASSIAN HAREHOUND

Without doubt one of the most beautiful foreign sporting dogs ever seen in England is the Circassian harehound *Fly*, which may also be said to be quite unique in this country. I happened to see it at the Botanic Gardens Show in 1903, and gladly availed myself of the opportunity afforded me of getting something really novel for a dog-book. I am indebted to Mrs. Rous for the following description and particulars of the little dog :—

The Circassian harehound *Fly* is, in appearance, like a diminutive deerhound, but has silkier and longer hair, of a variegated greyish tint, and a curly, bushy tail. Its parents came from Teheran in Persia, but I believe the natural home of the breed is in that part of Russia below the Caucas Mountains. The sire and dam of *Fly* were imported into Italy, where the dog was born about March 1900. She weighs 31 lbs., and stands 20½ inches at the shoulder. Her eyes are a dark-blue with brown outlines to the pupils ; ears short, and covered with smooth hair, carried neatly folded back in repose, but when excited she cocks them beautifully ; tail very long, heavily feathered and ringed—when excited it has something the appearance of a circular fan ; her coat is longer than the average deerhound's, inclined to be straight, and of a graduated shade of grey, with white chest and feet ; she has a very long second thigh, well bent stifles, and hocks well let down ; front legs dead straight ; hare-footed, and rather large feet, probably adapted for running in a sandy country. She is extraordinarily fleet, and has beaten greyhounds that have won prizes, being able to turn in half the space or time of any dog she has yet been matched with. She is very gentle and playful, and an ideal dog for a lady or a child. When gamboling with other dogs she has the most graceful action, and is as agile as a cat. I have tried hard to get a dog to mate with her, but found it impossible, as I believe she is the only one of her breed in England. She has attracted great attention whenever she has been exhibited, and is much admired by every one who sees her, both for her beauty and her charmingly friendly disposition.

# STUD-DOG

AND

# BREEDING-KENNEL REGISTER

# STUD-DOG

AND

# BREEDING-KENNEL REGISTER

## Basset-hounds

AT STUD, *Clarion* (Ch. Bowman *ex* Dollie) and *Pilgrim* (Ch. Locksley *ex* Maid Marion). Fees reasonable. Puppies generally for disposal. C. R. Morrison, Vert House, Chiddingly, Sussex.

AT STUD, smooth basset-hounds. Particulars and stud cards from A. Croxton Smith, Esq., Burlington House, Wandle Road, Upper Tooting, London, S.W.

## Beagles

AT STUD, Mrs. Charles Chapman's celebrated rabbit beagles. Puppies and adult dogs generally for disposal. Apply Radnage Kennels, Radnage House, Stokenchurch.

AT STUD, rabbit beagles from 9 to 11 inches. Prize-takers and real working blood. Short backs, well marked. Fee 2 guineas. F. B. Lord, Kerswell Rock, Chudleigh, Devon.

## Bloodhounds

AT STUD, Ch. *Hordle Hercules* and *Hordle Mars*. Particulars and stud cards on application. Pups and young hounds generally for disposal. S. H. Mangin, Esq., Hordle Grange, Hordle, Hants.

AT STUD, *Pitmully Ulf*, by Wandle Warrior *ex* Gunhilda. Fees and full particulars on application to C. J. B. Monypenny, Esq., Leswalt, Stranraer, N.B.

AT STUD, the well-known bloodhound Ch. *Panther*, sire of

excellent stock. Particulars and stud cards from A. Croxton Smith, Esq., Burlington House, Wandle Road, Upper Tooting, S.W.

BREEDING KENNELS — Mrs. Charles Chapman, Radnage House, Stokenchurch, has good hounds at stud, at moderate fees, and generally a few drafts of highest quality for sale.

## Borzois

AT STUD, Ch. *Statesman* and other noted winners. Young stock usually for disposal. For particulars apply to Major Borman, Ramsden, Billericay, Essex.

BREEDING KENNELS—Breeders of the well-known winners *Wolfruna Velsk*, *Karol*, *Nathalie*, *Feodora*, *Svazda*, *Veerost*, and others. Wulfruna Kennels of Borzois, near Wolverhampton.

## Dachshunds

AT STUD, Champions *Wirral Hollybranch* and *Hollyberry*. (See illustrations to Dachshund section.) For particulars apply to A Bradbury, Esq., Warrenside, New Brighton.

## Deerhounds

AT STUD, Dogs of purest and oldest strains, sires of noted winners. Champion pedigree adults and puppies generally for disposal. Mrs. Bedwell, East Kennett Manor, near Marlborough.

## Greyhounds

AT STUD, Ch. *Pterodactyl*, 29 inches at shoulder, *ex* Laughing Water by Jem Crow. Fee 3 guineas. Stud cards from Mr. Clement Hodgson, Gannow, Burnley.

Mr. J. W. Bourne ("*Brigadier*"), largest exporter of greyhounds in England, executes commissions at Barbican Repository. Ad. 22 Ashbourne Grove, East Dulwich. Tels. "*Bournonite, London.*"

## Pointers

AT STUD, Ch. *Lunesdale Wagg* (fee 5 guineas); *Lunesdale Ted* (fee 4 guineas). Mrs. Horner, Greeta House, Burton in Lonsdale, Kirkby Lonsdale, Westmorland.

BREEDING KENNELS—The best kennel in England of combined field, trial, and show-bench pointers. Dogs at stud, and drafts usually for sale. H. Sawtell, The Chesnuts, Melksham.

## Retrievers (Flat)

AT STUD, Ch. *Wimpole Peter* (fee 8 guineas); *Black Quilt* (8 guineas); *Paul of Riverside* (6 guineas); *Broom Faskally* (5 guineas). Apply to J. Salter, Riverside, Nantwich, Cheshire.

BREEDING KENNELS—Mr. R. Paterson, Chipping Norton, for high-class retrievers. Dogs at stud; puppies for sale. Twenty-five years' practical experience.

## Retrievers (Curly)

AT STUD, the celebrated Ch. *Preston Sultan*, winner of seven championships, and the most perfect specimen ever exhibited. Fee 3 guineas. Mason and Wood, Gomersal, Leeds.

## Setters (English)

BREEDING KENNELS—High-class English setters at stud; puppies for sale; trained dogs on hire. Apply to D. M'Vicar, Logan Kennels, Stranraer, N.B.

BREEDING KENNELS—The best of combined field, trial, and show-bench setters. Dogs at stud; puppies generally for sale. Apply to Mr. H. Sawtell, The Chesnuts, Melksham.

## Setters (Irish)

AT STUD, Mrs. Ingle-Bepler's well-known dogs *Shandonderry* and *Ulad Rhu*. Big winners; good workers. Fee 3 guineas. Drafts for sale. Kennelman, 630 High Road, Tottenham, Middlesex.

## Spaniels (Clumber)

AT STUD, Champion of champions field, trial, and show winner. Perfectly trained retrieving adults and puppies for sale. Apply Mr. F. Winton Smith, The Beeches, Boreham Woods, Herts.

BREEDING KENNELS—Messrs. Tilley Brothers, of Shepton Mallet, have the finest kennel of clumber spaniels in the world, exhibition and working qualities combined. Trial allowed.

## Spaniels (Sussex)

AT STUD, the celebrated Rosehill spaniels; winners of 400 prizes; bred from workers for 22 years. (See illustration to section.) Mr. Campbell Newington, Oakover, Ticehurst, Sussex.

## Spaniels (Springer)

AT STUD, the well-known prize-winning Norfolk spaniel *Toss*. (See illustration to section.) A real good working type of dog. Fee 2 guineas. H. G. Bleazby, Inishargy, Lanivet, Bodmin.

AT STUD, the springer spaniel Ch. *Beechgrove Will*. (See illustration to section.) Well trained adults and puppies for sale. Mr. F. Winton Smith, The Beeches, Boreham Woods, Herts.

## Spaniels (Welsh)

BREEDING KENNELS—For Welsh springer spaniels of the best and oldest strains, apply to Kennelman, Grove, Craven Arms, R.S.O., Shropshire.

## Spaniels (Field)

AT STUD, black and variety field spaniels, winners and workers. Puppies generally for sale. Full particulars from owner, Mr. John Smith, Coleshill, Warwickshire.

## Spaniels (Cocker)

AT STUD, Ch. *Ben Bowdler* (fee 3 guineas), and his son Ch. *Bob Bowdler* (to ten bitches in 1904). Fee 5 guineas. (See illustrations to section.) Mr. R. de C. Peele, Church House, Ludlow.

BREEDING KENNELS—Mr. H. W. G. Garnett, Hon. Secretary, Cocker Club, has generally for disposal adults and puppies of the best breeding. Address Willaston, near Nantwich.

BREEDING KENNELS—Mr. E. Melville Heard, Machen Cottage, Machen Lower, Newport, Monmouthshire, has generally drafts of cocker spaniels for disposal.

BREEDING KENNELS—Mr. Robert N. Allen, of the Laskett, Hereford, has black cocker spaniels of the highest merit for disposal from his kennels.

## Spaniels (English Water)

Messrs. Tilley Brothers of Shepton Malet have made a speciality of English water spaniels, and have some of the best procurable for disposal.

## Spaniels (Irish Water)

AT STUD, Mr. F. Trench O'Rorke's celebrated dogs, to approved bitches only. Trained adults and puppies of his well-known strain for sale. Riverside House, Newport, Co. Mayo.

AT STUD, *Kempston Shamrock*, by Kempston Connaught *ex* Kempston Kathleen Mavourneen. Most typical young dog of the day (2 guineas). Mrs. Carter Mitchell, Western Road, Birmingham.

BREEDING KENNELS—Prize-bred Irish water spaniels of the best strains for disposal. Bred for sporting purposes as well as show. The Lady Dunleath, Ballywalter Park, Co. Down.

## Terriers (Airedale)

AT STUD, the winning terriers *Rajah of Clipstone*, Ch. *Master Briar*, and Ch. *Rock Salt*. Fee 2 guineas, or by arrangement. Apply Mr. E. Thorp, Clipstone Kennels, Hounslow Heath.

BREEDING KENNELS—Mr. Edward Blunt, 29 St. Mary's Street, St. Paul's, Birmingham, has dogs at stud, brood bitches, adults, and puppies of best strains for sale.

BREEDING KENNELS—Mr. Holland Buckley, Clonmel, Burnham, Bucks, breeder and exhibitor of the famous "Clonmel" strain of Airedales, has generally drafts for disposal.

BREEDING KENNELS—Messrs. Baines and Dodwell, breeders of high-class Airedales, have always pups and young stock for sale. Many champions come from this kennel. Rock Ferry, Birkenhead.

BREEDING KENNELS—Mr. E. H. Armstrong of The Kennels, Gooseye, Keighley, is one of the largest and most successful breeders of Airedale terriers. Puppies and adults always for sale.

BREEDING KENNELS—Messrs. E. and O. Coates, 18 Wrose Hill Terrace, Shipley, Yorks, the most successful breeders and exhibitors of Airedales in the north of England. Stock for sale.

## Terriers (Bedlington)

AT STUD, *Beaconsfield Temporise;* liver; winner of many first and special prizes. Fee 1 guinea. Mr. John Cook, 41 Beaconsfield Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

BREEDING KENNELS—Mr. Harold Warnes, Cranley Grange, Eye, Suffolk, has generally champion-bred drafts for sale from his well-known kennel of Bedlingtons.

BREEDING KENNELS—Mr. P. R. Smith, Breakwater Hotel, Leeds, breeder and exhibitor of Bedlingtons. Premier kennel of puppies and adults. Stock always for sale.

## Terriers (Dandie Dinmont)

AT STUD, Ch. *Braw Lad.* (See illustration to section.) Fee 3 guineas. Winner of five championships under different judges. Siring grand stock. Mrs. Spencer, Gresham Cottage, Ewell.

BREEDING KENNELS—Mr. E. H. Blagg, breeder of champions Katrine Ferry and Katrine Teaser, and many other winners, has generally pups and adult dogs for sale.

## Terriers (Smooth Fox)

AT STUD, *Wollibong*, by Raby Donyel *ex* Bourne, and *Midas* by Jim Crow *ex* Quarry Flirt. For stud cards and full particulars apply to C. J. B. Monypenny, Esq., Leswalt, Stranraer, N.B.

AT STUD, the property of Mr. G. C. Drabble, *Sandown Eclipse* (fee 3 guineas); also *Brian Newcome*, sire of Ch. Violet (fee 2 guineas); *Borgia Cæsar* (3 guineas). J. Linaker, Sandown, I.W.

AT STUD, *Gripper of Craig*, by St. Ledger *ex* Harmsworth. A winner and most successful stud dog. Fee 1 guinea. Apply to Captain Wilkie, The Craig, Cottenham Park Road, Wimbledon.

AT STUD, *Bedale Dare-Devil.* Fee 2 guineas. Mr. Frank Hill, breeder and exhibitor of smooth fox terriers, Astley Villa, Egerton Road, Withington, Manchester.

BREEDING KENNELS—The Totteridge stud of show and working fox terriers is limited to a few bitches only, besides those of their owner, Francis Redmond, Esq., Whetstone House, Totteridge.

## Terriers (Wire-haired Fox)

AT STUD, near Nottingham, *Grove Bristles* (fee 3 guineas); *Jolly Tar* (fee 3 guineas); *Snabeg* (fee 2 guineas). Apply to Mr. H. H. Enfield, Bramcote, Notts.

AT STUD, *Flag Captain*, by Ch. Commodore of Notts *ex* Matchwork (by Ch. Matchmaker). Fee 5 guineas. For stud cards and full particulars apply to Mr. W. E. Pitt-Pitts, Wadhurst, Sussex.

AT STUD, *Great Surprise*, by Meersbrook Bristles *ex* Glass Slipper. Throws rare hard-coated pups. Fee 2 guineas. For particulars apply to Dr. J. Stone, Cookham Dean.

AT STUD, *Argument*, by Daunter *ex* Struck Out. Bred by Mr. Tinné; whelped in June 1901. The property of Major de Castro, Pakenham Manor, Bury St. Edmunds.

BREEDING KENNELS—Mr. T. M. Fogg, breeder of champion pedigree, high-class wire-haired fox terriers. Dogs at stud. Young stock for sale. Glencoe, Marine Parade, West Kirby, Cheshire.

## Terriers (Irish)

AT STUD, *Ardpatrick*, grand long head with plenty of foreface, and very hard, red coat. Fee 1 guinea. Apply to Mr. G. Gallaher, Inglenook, Whetstone, Middlesex.

AT STUD, the well-known Irish terrier *Heybrook Ambassador*, winner of over sixty prizes. Fee 1 guinea. Full particulars, Mr. J. A. Heyworth, Lake Bank, Littleborough, Lancs.

BREEDING KENNELS—Dr. Richard Carey, of Borris, County Carlow, Ireland, has generally young stock for disposal from his well-known Irish breeding kennels.

BREEDING KENNELS—Mr. R. M'Mullen Bolster, breeder, judge, and exhibitor of Irish terriers. Address Tallow, County Waterford, Ireland.

BREEDING KENNELS—Mr. James Brabazon of 35 Newington Avenue, Belfast, Ireland, has generally drafts for disposal from his well-known kennel of Irish terriers.

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## Terriers (Scotch)

AT STUD, Ch. *Heworth Rascal*, by Seafield Rascal *ex* Seafield Rosie. Winner fifteen championships. (See illustration.) Mrs. Hannay, Heworth Hall, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

AT STUD, *Inverness Dirk*, "all type"; winner and sire of winners. Grand head and expression. Apply to Mrs. St. John Clarke, The Kennels, Nutfield. (Station, Redhill.).

AT STUD, *Callum Dhu*, by Ch. Heather Bob *ex* Conn. Winner of championship. Sire of winning stock. Fee 2½ guineas. Apply to Mr. B. W. Powlett, Pen-y-worlod, Abergavenny.

BREEDING KENNELS—Mr. A. G. Cowley, Albourne, Hassocks, Sussex, breeder of Scotch terriers of the best blood. Puppies for sale, also brood bitches and adults. Dogs at stud.

BREEDING KENNELS—Mrs. Sidney Thompson of Etherley House, Etherley, near Bishop Auckland, whose kennel won over 100 prizes last year, can always supply Scottish terriers.

BREEDING KENNELS—Dr. A. E. Flaxman of Pittenweem, Fife, N.B., breeder of pure white Scottish terriers. (See illustration to Scottish terrier section.)

## Terriers (Skye)

AT STUD, *Yoxford Wonder*, well-known winner. For stud cards and full particulars apply to Mrs. Wilmer, at the kennels, The Retreat, Yoxford, Suffolk.

AT STUD, the prick-eared Skye terrier *Mr. Isaacs*, winner of numerous prizes. Fee 3 guineas. Stud cards and particulars from Miss A. K. Clifton, Weybourne House, Farnham, Surrey.

BREEDING KENNELS — Mr. Duncan Cunningham of Tyne Lodge, Haddington, N.B., a life-long breeder and exhibitor of Skye terriers, has dogs at stud and selected drafts for disposal.

## Terriers (Welsh)

BREEDING KENNELS — The Rev. W. P. Nock, Longdon Vicarage, Wellington, Salop, has generally spare stock of the highest breeding for sale from his well-known kennels.

BREEDING KENNELS—Mrs. H. D. Greene, of Grove, Craven Arms, R.S.O., Shropshire, has often drafts for sale. For full particulars apply to Kennelman, as above.

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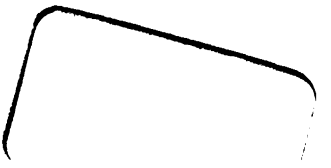
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